

## REPORT: BLACKS CLOSING GRADUATION GAP, BUT LATER IN LIFE

WASHINGTON (AP) — Many black Americans are finishing high school at the age many whites have completed four years of college, an education organization reports.

Blacks and whites ages 25 to 29 had nearly the same rate of high school completion, about 87 percent, in 1995. But in the younger age group, 18 to 24, the gap was wider, the American Council on Education said.

Its report, released Sunday, said the gap may have closed because a greater number of black people finished high school requirements later in life through equivalency examinations. Just 10 years earlier, in 1985, blacks had an 81 percent graduation rate, compared with 87 percent for whites.

Nonetheless, the council's analysis of Census data showed that blacks and Hispanics finished college at a far lower rate than whites, and the rate of enrollment increases is slowing.

Minority enrollment at the University of Michigan rose 0.8 percent in 1992, 1.2 percent in 1995 and 0.7 percent in 1996. Wayne State University saw a 6 percent dip in minority enrollment in 1994 and again in 1996, although black students remained 21 percent to 23 percent of Wayne State's overall enrollment, according to figures cited Monday by the Detroit Free Press.

Affirmative action isn't the only factor in the overall enrollment slowdown, said John Matlock, Michigan's vice provost. More students choose work over college when the economy is good, and college costs are rising.

"But I don't want to discount the assault in terms of affirmative action nationwide," Matlock told the Free Press. "I think it does have a chilling effect on students in terms of where they go to college."

Matlock defends Michigan's use of race as one of several admission criteria. "We have to continue to open doors for a variety of students," he said. "I think that it's in the national interest."

But Michigan philosophy Professor Carl Cohen challenges the policy. His analysis of applicants with similar test scores and grade point averages shows blacks closing the gap.

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## Gangsta rap controversy hits Time Warner again

By Farrell Kramer  
AP Business writer

NEW YORK (AP)—Time Warner is in the Doggy Dogg house. Activist C. Delores Tucker reignited the controversy over gangsta rap music Thursday, slamming the world's largest media and entertainment company at its annual meeting for the sexually graphic songs of Lil' Kim.

Her comments, directed at Time Warner's management and particularly chairman Gerald Levin, came less than two years after Time Warner's decision to sell its stake in Interscope Records amid criticism

of violent and sexual rap lyrics.

Mrs. Tucker punctuated her argument by reading some particularly explicit Lil' Kim lyrics to the gathered stockholders. They were laced with profanity and references to anal intercourse and ejaculation.

One relatively tame verse excerpted by Mrs. Tucker read:

"How you like it baby?"

"Uh, from the front."

"Give that a... a smack."

"Bet your man won't do it like that."

Mrs. Tucker dubbed the music "gangsta porno rap."

"Shame, shame, shame on our family Time Warner," she said. She

said the lyrics promote violence, particularly in the black community, and told Levin and Time Warner: "You endorse the destruction of our children."

"Must we continue to have to remind you that we should have no songs that are offensive to any people?" she told Levin as she officiated the meeting, held for the second time at the storied Apollo Theatre in Harlem to bring focus to the area's cultural heritage.

Levin, who had made an upbeat presentation about the company's performance and outlook, took issue with Mrs. Tucker's comments, saying he

SEE GANGSTA RAP CONTROVERSY PAGE 10

## Clinton apologizes to Tuskegee survivors



President Clinton and Vice-President Gore stand with survivors of the Tuskegee Experiment during the White House event in which the President officially apologized to them for the malicious treatment towards them by the federal government.

On Friday, May 16, President Clinton recognized the survivors of the Public Health Service study conducted in Macon County, Alabama, at a White House ceremony. He issued a formal apology on behalf of the federal government, and announced several steps to be taken by the Administration to ensure that the lessons learned in Tuskegee are never

forgotten.

"What was done cannot be undone," President Clinton said in his remarks. "But we can end the silence. We can stop turning our heads away. We can look you in the eye and finally say on behalf of the American people, what the United States government did was shameful, and I am sorry."

The President pledged to do more

to ensure that medical research practices are sound and ethical, and that researchers work more closely with communities. Among the steps he announced are plans to help Tuskegee University build a biotech center that will serve as a memorial, and a new postgraduate fellowship program for African Americans and other minorities.

## Federal government called 'The Last Plantation'

Calling for "massive congressional hearings," presidential leader and holding cabinet members personally responsible for discriminatory practices within the agencies, Congressman Albert Wynn (Dem., MD), joined dozens of other civil rights organizations in vehemently condemning discriminatory hiring and employment practices in government agencies, especially the Federal government. Dozens of African American Federal government employees testified at the "Equal Opportunity Summit" recently held by Blacks in Government (BIG) at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. BIG, formed in 1975, fights discrimination in employment in all levels of government. The organization has 200 chapters nationwide.

Rep. Wynn said he will "call upon the President" to get his cabinet on board in terms of actively working to solve discrimination. He said each agency should have an affirmative action plan and hold all levels of executives and management accountable for its implementation. "I am not talking about quotas," Congressman Wynn said. "I am talking about justice." If this does not work, "We will have to take this issue to the streets," said Representative Wynn. The Congressman recently joined members of BIG and African American employees of the Library of Congress when they picketed to protest the Library's continued discriminatory practices. African American employees at the Library of Congress were awarded \$5.5 million in damages, the largest financial settlement involving a Federal agency. A second suit was recently filed because of the Library's failure to carry out the Court's original mandate.



Congressman Albert Wynn (D-Md.) throws his support to African-American government employees and members of Blacks in Government (BIG).

"The government has declared itself a leader in the area of equal opportunity, but African American employees are concentrated in lower levels in government employ said Oscar Eason, Jr., president of Blacks in Government. Almost 60 percent of African American employees are in grades nine and under. Eason told the summit, African Americans are terminated at a rate of three times that of whites and there are too few African Americans in the Senior Executive Service the BIG president said. Blacks in Government will join with members of Congress and other civil rights organizations to "overhaul employment and hiring practices that systematically discriminate against African Americans and other minorities," Eason said.

"I have been in this town for twenty-seven years and I was not aware of the extent of discrimination in the Federal workforce," said Robert McAlpine, head of government

relations for the National Urban League. "I pledge my support in helping BIG to make the changes that are needed," he said.

"Discrimination and racism in government is a waste of the taxpayer's dollars," said Dr. Yvonne Scruggs, executive director of the Black Leadership Forum, a civil rights coalition that includes more than twenty of the top African American organizations, including BIG. She called for a White House conference on race. "There has never been a change in our nation without the leadership of the President," Dr. Scruggs said.

"We are at a point where we were before the civil rights movement," said Romeo Spaulding, president of the International Association of Black Firefighters, who testified about the small numbers of African American firefighters throughout the Federal government. "Discrimination is rampant."

SEE GOV. CALLED LAST PLANTATION PAGE 10

### Statistics show gov't treatment of blacks

The testimony concerning racism and discrimination in the government workplace given at the recently held "Equal Opportunity Summit" is supported by the Federal government's own statistics.

An Office of Personnel Management study says:

\* African Americans are terminated at three times the rate of whites in the Federal government

\* Black males have been steadily declining as a total of the federal workforce; from 7.2 percent in 1984 to 6.6 percent of the total in 1994.

\* Blacks remain concentrated in lower grades with limited promotion potential.

\* Almost 60 percent of the blacks in the Federal government are in Grades GS-9 and below.

\* The average civil service rank for blacks in federal service is 7.8. The average for whites is 9.8.

\* African Americans are disproportionately in positions with small growth potential.

\* Only 4 of the top 10 growth jobs in the Federal government have black participation rates of 10 percent or more.

\* The percentage of African Americans in 5 of the top 10 declining jobs is more than 25 percent.

\* Minorities in general are disproportionately affected by downsizing.

\* While minorities are 28 percent of the federal workforce, they were 33 percent of the RIFs (Reductions in Force) in 1996.

\* African Americans were 16.9 percent of the federal workforce in 1996 and suffered 25 percent of the RIFs.

## Democratic gubernatorial race The candidates and the issues

by Sonya Kimble-Ellis

This year's democratic primary election, which takes place June 3rd, focuses on three candidates who are seeking to contest Governor Whitman's seat in November.

Jim McGreevey, currently the Mayor of Woodbridge and the State Senator representing the 19th legislative district, is credited with starting a private/public partnership that has reportedly brought millions of dollars in new investment and 1,800 new jobs into Woodbridge. He has served as a former Essex County assistant prosecutor and Executive Director of the NJ State Parole Board.

Representative Robert E. Andrews (D-1st Dist.) is a graduate of Bucknell University and Cornell University Law School. Early in his career, he taught law at Rutgers and worked as a practicing attorney. Andrews, who was later elected to the Camden County Board of Freeholders, has served as a U.S. Representative since 1990.

Michael Murphy, a candidate trailing behind McGreevey and Andrews, is a former Prosecutor of Morris County. He also served in the state Office of the Public Defender, later working in his own private practice where he specialized in products liability and civil and corporate litigation.

A number of issues should be addressed by these candidates during their campaigns. A growing concern among citizens of New Jersey is the high cost of auto insurance. C. Roy Epps, President of the Civic League of Greater New Brunswick, says, "Basically, the Democratic candidates are singing the same tune. The only difference seems to be where their physical locations are. We're (New Jersey) hit hard by auto insurance rates. When we look at economics, we still pay proportionately more and receive less."

Dorothy Darrington, a concerned New Jersey resident, agrees. "Car insurance in New Jersey is higher than in any other state in this country," she told City News. "It has to be addressed."

Whitman continues to promise that auto insurance rates will be lowered. She says that soon, unfair surcharges and automatic rate hikes will be gone. "My plan for auto insurance reform will do that," she says, "and I intend to fight on this issue every day, until our plan is law and every New Jersey family can afford quality auto insurance."

If elected Governor, McGreevey says he will address the problem by creating an elected Insurance Commissioner who he says will serve the people - not the insurance companies. He also proposes to end automatic flex-rate increases and eliminate the 2% rule that allows insurance companies to randomly drop 2% of drivers every year. Murphy vows to cut auto insurance premiums by 15 to 20%.

"Murphy has surprised some people with his candor and ideas," said Reverend Reginald Jackson of St. Matthew AME Church in Orange. But African Americans in particular shouldn't take any of these candidates seriously unless they address certain issues.

One major concern is what the candidates propose to do for urban communities. For Harry Paden, Parent Coordinator at the Irvington Board of Education, an important issue lies in the state's cities and townships getting more assistance from Trenton to help the tax poor cities.

Paden, who saw the Democratic



Congressman Robert Andrews



Mayor Jim McGreevey



Michael Murphy, former Morris County prosecutor

candidates first debate in Edison, thinks the state has been counter-freely when it comes to urban communities. "I'm leaning toward McGreevey," he said. "His policies seem as though they will help minority communities. He seems to be able to identify with the plight of those in urban cities. Governor Whitman doesn't seem to have any empathy for these communities."

Fred Rasheed, President of Rasheed Associates, a management consultant marketing firm, says candidates must look to do more. "I've heard strong radio commercials dealing with one candidate's support of minorities. But I haven't heard anything that deals with education and jobs. The Democratic candidates haven't been very vocal in minority communities. And with Welfare reform, there will be a tremendous demand for jobs in urban areas."

McGreevey says he plans to address those very problems. One of his campaign promises is to stimulate economic growth in existing developed urban areas to bring jobs where they are most needed and where the infrastructure already exists while preventing over-development of our suburban areas. "If elected, McGreevey also promises to increase job training and worker re-training to help the employed stay ahead of the job market."

Governor Whitman asserts that the problem of unavailable jobs is getting better. She says that since she took office, New Jersey has provided more than 176,000 jobs, and more people are now working than at any time since 1989. In addition, she says her Workforce Development Program allowed tens of thousands of

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## Community Calendar

## EVERY MONDAY

**NEWARK—Employment Clinic at Essex County College.** For more information, call 201-877-5398.

## EVERY TUESDAY

**NEWARK—Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral Business Services' Midday Service.** For more information, call 201-622-3505.

## EVERY WEDNESDAY

**NEWARK—Effective Parenting Skills Training at Essex County College.** For more information, call 201-877-1895.

## EVERY SATURDAY

**PLAINFIELD—Indoor Flea Market.** Downtown area. For more information, call 908-989-2663.

## EVERY MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

**NEWARK—Free Health services by the city Dept. of Health and Human Services.** For more information, call 201-733-7600.

## EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY

**NEWARK—Psychodynamic support group for women.** For more information, call 201-877-1895.

## EVERY TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

**NEWARK—"Getting Started with the Computer" at Essex County College.** For more information, call 201-877-1895.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

**MOUNTAINIDE—Fourth Annual Breakfast Meeting of Union County Alliance, at L'Affaire.** For more information, call 908-527-2944.

**PLAINFIELD—Welfare Reform Forum.** For more information, call 908-753-3523.

## THURSDAY, MAY 29

**ELIZABETH—Crafts and stories for 3-5 year olds at the Library.** For more information, call 908-353-4620.

**NEWARK—Board of Adjustment meeting at City Hall.** For more information, call 201-733-6333.

## SATURDAY, MAY 31

**GLEN RIDGE—Regional Technical Assistance Institute for the New Jersey Arts in Goals 2000 at Glen Ridge Middle School.** For more information, call 1-800-2ARTS99.

**NEWARK—17th Annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon** sponsored by the Concerned Black Nurses of Newark at the Airport Marriott. For more information, call 501-573-4020.

**PLAINFIELD—12th Annual Plainfield Antique & Custom Car Show at Park-Madison.** For more information, call 908-752-2431.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 1

**PISCATAWAY—Walk for Community Health at Johnson Park.** For more information, call 908-224-6870.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 5

**NEW YORK—Seminar, "African-American Leaders and Drug Policy," part of the Drug Policy Seminar Series at the Linde Institute.** For more information, call 212-887-0895.

## MONDAY, JUNE 9

**ELIZABETH—Elizabeth Center of Planned Parenthood of Greater Northern New Jersey is offering low-cost cancer screenings for women over 40 at 208 Commerce Place.** For more information, call 908-351-5384.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

**SPRINGFIELD—Third Annual TEEN ARTS Poetry Reading at Barnes and Noble.** For more information, call 908-559-2950.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 14

**LAWRENCEVILLE—Regional Technical Assistance Institute for the New Jersey Arts in Goals 2000 at Lawrence High School.** For more information, call 1-800-2ARTS99.

**SOMERVILLE—25th Annual Golf Outing at the Raritan Valley Country Club.** For more information, call 908-725-1552.

**LINCROFT—12th Annual African-American Community Festival at Brookdale Community College.** For more information, call 908-224-2315.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 17

**WEST ORANGE—New Jersey Spinal Cord Injury System (NJSCIS) will sponsor its Seventh Annual Spinal Cord Injury Retreat.** At the Kessler Conference Center of Kessler Institute of Rehabilitation. For more information, call 201-243-6800.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 26

**NEW YORK—Seminar, "The Agency and the Estuary of NJMMA Research," part of the Drug Policy Seminar Series at the Linde Institute.** For more information, call 212-887-0895.

## Parker elected to presidency post

Melody Parker of Jersey City recently elected as president of Beta Alpha Omega Chapter, Newark of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Beta Alpha Omega is the first chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. in the state of New Jersey and was chartered January 30, 1934. The sorority is a service organization that is involved with rendering community service to the Family, Senior Citizens, education, health educator, economic empowerment, arts, and global issues.

Mrs. Parker teaches Neurologically Impaired Children at the Kennedy School (P399) in Jersey City. She holds a degree in Deaf Rehabilitation and Biology from Talladega College, Talladega, Ala. She was educated through the Jersey City Parochial and Public School system and she graduated from Lincoln High School.

She has coached for the Kennedy School cheerleaders for many years. Under her guidance, they became the first Jersey City Public School team to win local competitions, state competitions, Northern States Competition, Eastern States Competition, and two times National Championship. The National Competition was held in Hawaii and California. Mrs. Parker spearheaded a massive

## Noonan gets New Jersey Pride Award



**BLOOMFIELD—Bloomfield College President John F. Noonan will receive the 1997 NEW JERSEY PRIDE AWARD in Education** sponsored by New Jersey Monthly. According to Kate S. Tomlinson, publisher of New Jersey Monthly, Dr. Noonan's "dedication to redefining the College's mission to prepare students to reach their full potential in a diverse society is an accomplishment for which all New Jerseyans can be proud." Allen I. Bildner, Former Chairman and CEO of Kings Super Market, who currently serves as Chairman of SME Co., Inc., nominated Dr. Noonan for the NEW JERSEY PRIDE AWARD. In his letter to New Jersey Monthly, Bildner wrote, "Jack is a model, and Bloomfield College is a microcosm for what education ought to be in our country today."

## TCI wins walk with walk



—Newark residents (from left) Jamal Carswell, Rahim Wadood and Qasim Wadood, age 7, enjoy themselves at The Children's Institute (TCI) First Union Walk held recently at Verona Park, Verona. The Fifth Annual Walk raised \$48,000 to benefit TCI, a Livingston-based New Jersey State Board of Education-approved school for emotionally disturbed, autistic and preschool handicapped children. Walkers solicited contributions from family, friends, coworkers and other TCI supporters and traveled a 1.2 mile loop around the lake at Verona Park. The Children's Institute provides quality educational and therapeutic programs for emotionally disturbed, autistic and preschool handicapped children from local school districts in Essex, Morris, Union, Passaic, Hudson, Bergen and Middlesex counties. The school strives to enhance children's self-esteem and their ability to learn to resolve problems and express feelings in positive ways. It facilitates the successful return of children, based on their potential, to their local school districts through programs of specialized education, care and counseling in a nurturing environment.

## Union County Sheriff's Officers Select Officer of the Year



Union County Sheriff Ralph Froehlich announced today that Donald White has been selected Officer of the Year by his peers and coworkers. This is an honor that is bestowed upon the Sheriff's Office who best demonstrates the personal qualities of dedication to duty, cooperation, personal drive and selfless assistance to friends and coworkers.

The Sheriff's Office of the Year Award is a carefully conducted selection process that takes special care to identify the most deserving officer while avoiding the appearance of a popularity contest. All members of the Sheriff's Office are given a one week period to nominate a deserving candidate for this award. Over twenty officers received nominations. The three top nominees were Det. Frank Barton, Officer Donald White, and Officer Robert Woolper. A run off election was conducted among these three candidates and Officer White received the majority of votes.

Officer White, "Donnie," has been a Union County Sheriff's Officer since 1984. He has worked in the

courts, fugitive unit and transportation unit. Before joining the Sheriff's Office he worked in Juvenile Detention from 1980 to 1982 and the Union County Jail from 1982 to 1984. Donnie resides in South Plainfield with his wife of 10 years, Ernestine Arnold White. His hobbies are bowling, fishing and helping others.

Sheriff Froehlich stated that Officer White, Detective Barton and Officer Woolper will all receive meritorious service awards at the annual awards ceremony held in November. "The greatest thing about the Sheriff's Office of the Year Award is that Donnie was elected by his peers. He is an outstanding officer, a great role model, and respected and liked by everyone who knows him."

Officer White is a modest unassuming person. When asked to comment about his selection as Sheriff's Officer of the Year Donnie simply stated "I'm an 80 year old mother, Julia White, who resides in Jacksonville, North Carolina will be proud proof of me."

## \$90K raised by county employees



**CRANFORD—Walking over nine miles, serving lunch to almost 1,000 hungry people, carrying cases of bottled water, or picking up tired, sore walkers along the route are some of the things close to 100 Union County employees did on April 27 at the Union County College, Cranford, to help raise money for the March of Dimes in their annual Walk-A-Mile.**

"I'm so proud of our employees who give up their time and energy to help raise money for healthier babies," said Freeholder Chairwoman Linda Stender, Honorary Chairman for the County's walk, one of thousands held nationally each year. "Preliminary totals show that 950 walkers raised almost \$90,000. Each and every individual who walked over nine miles to help this

worthy cause."

Stender added that she wanted to also thank the many County employees who aided the cause behind the scenes, by being part of the logistics committee, soliciting food donations, putting up signs and banners, and the many other chores needed to make a walk like this one succeed.

"They are the ones who often do not receive the credit, but they are not visible, but without them, there wouldn't be a Walk-A-Mile in Union County," said Stender, who opened the walk along with Freeholder Vice Chairman Daniel Sullivan and Freeholders Edwin Force and Donald Goncalves.

The March of Dimes will hold an awards party on June 10 at the Hanover Marriott from 6 to 8 p.m.

## Weekly Horoscope

## ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

Keeping secrets won't get you far this week. Your information could make or break a situation, so don't withhold what you know. There is a career move for you in the very near future, but it will be quite a large step to take, so embark with caution and optimism.

## TAURUS: (April 21-May 21)

You have a chance to create a solid foundation for future security. Be careful to avoid getting caught up in getting ahead at the expense of your peace of mind or creating havoc within your family. Don't jump to conclusions with romance, take it a step at a time.

## GEMINI: (May 22-June 21)

Make sure to not commit yourself to something that may stir and hold you back. Don't stall in your decisions, just say you are not ready and leave it at that. There seems to be something between you and your mate, when you talk and walk, talk honestly.

## CANCER: (June 22-July 23)

You seem to have a restless sort of irritability, which may just get you into trouble. It's important to keep your anger in check or you may find yourself cutting off those who are most important to you. Your current romantic partner may surprise you with lots of attention.

## LEO: (July 24-August 23)

You are doing a great job making finances stretch to their limit, but enough is enough, and something has got to go. If you have the authority to make the cut, go for it. Change at work may have you feeling like you have been overlooked, but that is far from true.

## VIRGO: (August 24-September 23)

A recent investment may prove much more lucrative than you ever expected, but getting out early may not be such a bad idea. Be sure to take care of all the details though, however insignificant they may be. If you are feeling unmotivated, find a way to psyche yourself up.

## LIBRA: (September 24-October 23)

Juggle your funds to the best of your abilities, you might consider consolidating your debts so you have only one payment to deal with. Any home repairs you will probably be quite costly. Emphasize what you have in your life that brings you enjoyment and satisfaction.

## SCORPIO: (October 24-November 23)

Your intuitive hunches are right on, so don't justify them away. Emotions which have been held in check for some time need to be unleashed now. Allow yourself to express what you feel inside, striving to maintain a sense of proportion - things aren't so bad.

## SAGITTARIUS: (November 23-December 21)

Any risks concerning money this week will be well worth the effort. To thrive someone is trying to hold you back under the false impression that it is for your own good? It's time to make those decisions on your own. If you are being manipulated by another, it's time to get it alone.

## CAPRICORN: (December 22-January 20)

This week your passions may get the best of you and anger your mate. If you are, at the very least, aware of this possibility, it can probably forestall any unpleasantness. If stress has gotten you down, take time for a rather childlike activity, helping you to relax.

## AQUARIUS: (January 21-February 19)

Rethink the reasons for your motivation in the workplace - you may need some alterations to previous plans. Listen to your inner voice for suggestions. Do the right thing when watching out for others, especially family members. What is it you really want out of life, and how are you going to get it?

## PISCES: (February 20-March 20)

Someone needs to smooth out the rough patches created by an argument, and you are best suited for the job. Following the rules may make you seem cold-hearted, so have a little compassion for those around you. Don't keep any secrets if the information can be well used.

**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** It's a good time to discuss any emotional issues with a significant other. Clear the air of any obstacles, and you may be quite surprised at how easily the conversation flows. Now that the lines of communication are open, make every effort to keep them this way.

## New Vice-Chairperson for Law Project

**SOUTH ORANGE—The Community Health Law Project New Jersey's Statewide legal and advocacy organization for people with disabilities, announced that Vivian Sanks-King, Esq. of Newark, New Jersey has been elected as Vice Chairperson of the Organization's Board of Trustees.** Mrs. Sanks-King is vice president for Legal Management at the University of Medicine and Dentistry Of New Jersey. She has served on numerous policy and planning boards including the New Jersey Public Policy Research Institute, Planned Parenthood Of New Jersey, Seton Hall Law School Alumni Association, the New Jersey State Bar Association and New Jersey Women in AIDS Network. In addition, she serves as Vice-Chairperson of the Governors Advisory Council on AIDS.

The Law Project has served New Jersey residents since 1976 when it was incorporated as a legal aid society by the American and State Bar Associations. Since that time its staff of over 60 have provided legal and advocacy representation to over 35,000 individuals in over 50,000 cases, and provided training and education to many thousands more providers, families, government representatives and consumers. Recently the Law Project litigated and won a widely reported case in which New Jersey's Federal District court declared invalid a section of the State's Land Use Law. This law was found to discriminate against persons with disabilities by placing restrictions on group home access in New Jersey communities. The Law Project represents persons with mental illness, developmental disabilities, HIV/AIDS, blindness, physical disabilities and the frail elderly.

## Greenbrook Manor honors Plainfield volunteers



**GREEN BROOK—Greenbrook Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Green Brook, recently honored its dedicated volunteers at a volunteer recognition luncheon during National Volunteer Week.** Among those honored were Plainfield residents (from left), Dorothea Durant, Ann Bethes, Edith Lewis with Activities Director Pamela Holck. "Volunteers enhance the lives of our elderly residents with their assistance and support. These special people don't just find time to volunteer, they make time," said Ms. Holck. Greenbrook Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center is an affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System.

## We want to hear from you

Send us your letter's, commentary, opinions to:

**City News**

**PO Box 1774**

**Plainfield, NJ 07061**

*City News the voice of New Jersey's African-American community*

## DNC and RNC CHAIRMEN ISSUE

### APOLOGY TO TUSKEGEE EXPERIMENT

Following the apology from President Clinton to the survivors of the Tuskegee Experiment, the Democratic National Committee also issued statements of apologies, both expressing their sorrow that the experiment occurred.

A press release last Friday from the Republican National Committee Chairman Jim Nicholson and Co-Chairman Patricia Harrison offered apologies on behalf of all Republicans, saying the experiments, in which 399 black men were induced to participate in a study that would leave them untreated for syphilis while doctors studied the effects to them, should have ever occurred. "The US government should have prevented, not sponsored, such immoral activities," the statement said.

Democratic National Committee Chairman Gov. Roy Romer and Steve Grossman also issued a statement on Friday. "Countless men paid with their lives for a medical study that yielded nothing more than tragedy and a lasting mistrust of the government," the statement said. "By participating in the Tuskegee Experiment, African-Americans in the medical community sincerely believed that they could help change the racist view that Blacks were biologically inferior. Unfortunately, the study deteriorated into an unethical medical experiment that reduced its victims to quinea pigs."

## GOVERNOR SIGNS MINORITY- ENROLLMENT BILL

AUSTIN (AP)—Gov. George W. Bush signed into law Tuesday a bill aimed at diversifying enrollment at public universities in the wake of an anti-affirmative action court ruling.

The measure, taking effect in 90 days, establishes uniform admission procedures under which universities would be required to admit applicants who graduated in either the top 10 or 25 percent of their classes.

After filling those slots, universities would have to consider, in addition to academic performance, race-neutral factors such as economic status and family background.

"We want all our students in Texas to have a fair shot at achieving their dreams and this legislation gives them that fair shot if they are willing to work for it," Bush said. "We want our universities to reach out to students from all walks of life."

Oponents have called the legislation a back-door approach to restoring race-based preferences akin to those struck down last year by a federal appeals court.

The court was acting in a lawsuit in which four white students argued that the University of Texas law school's admissions policy unfairly favored minorities.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed, and state Attorney General Dan Morales has since directed all public universities to adopt race-neutral policies for admissions, financial aid and scholarships.

## Female airforce officer faces prison after affair produced child

NEW YORK (AP)—A female Air Force officer faces 35 years in prison if convicted of charges that stem from an affair she had with a married officer that produced a child.

Lt. Crista Davis, 28, of DeKalb, Ill., was an Air Force Academy classmate of Lt. Kelly Flinn, the nation's first female B-52 pilot who has made national news fighting her own adultery charges.

"Our cases are linked by the fact that we're both women and they're slandering us," Ms. Davis told the Daily News in today's editions.

She spoke by phone from Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana.

Ms. Davis said an Air Force major, her English instructor at the Air Force Academy, fathered her son Christopher. She said she became involved with Maj. Greg Russell in 1995, two years after she graduated. She said she broke off the relationship in 1996, after she found out he was married.

Although Ms. Davis was granted immunity from prosecution for adultery charges and made a statement against Russell, she is charged with conduct unbecoming an officer and of using "indecent" and "cruel" language in letters written to his wife at the time.

Her attorney, Louis P. Font, said the letters had graphic language but made no physical threats. The Russells have since divorced.

# Judge upholds Sharpton's suit against Giuliani campaign

By Zangbra Browne  
Special to the NNPA from the  
New York Amsterdam News

Mayoral candidate Rev. Al Sharpton won a big victory in early May in Manhattan Supreme Court. Justice Phyllis Gangel-Jacobs gave a resounding thumbs down to a motion by Mayor Rudolph Giuliani to dismiss a \$6 million slander suit brought by the activist leader.

Judge Jacobs set a May 20 deadline for oral or written arguments in the case. However before the stunning decision she denied a legal move by Rev. Sharpton that would have

zipped the mouth of Mayor Giuliani and that of his campaign manager Fran Reiter.

Sharpton hit both Hizonero and Reiter with the lawsuit aimed at stopping them from engaging in what he described as "character assassination" of him during the course of the mayoral sweepstakes.

At issue according to Sharpton were remarks by both Giuliani and Reiter describing him as one who is noted for inciting riots. Sharpton stressed that the mayor and his campaign manager cannot falsely accuse him of a crime.

"They have the right to state whatever opinion they want of me but they

do not have the right to smear me as a riot instigator which is a federal crime," Rev. Sharpton told the Amsterdam News following the ruling.

Sharpton recalled that a similar tactic was used against former Mayor David Dinkins charging he had sponsored a "pogrom" in Crown Heights. "Now they are saying I incited the Crown Heights riots even though the Cuomo report clearly said I never got to the area until a day after Yankel Rosenbaum and Gavin Cato were already dead," he added.

The mayoral candidate vowed that he wouldn't allow the mayor or anyone in his campaign to repeat this

"illegal scare tactic" that was used in 1993. "I am not as concerned about the \$6 million as I am about exposing and stopping their blatant disregard for people's reputation and people's rights under the law," Sharpton declared.

He said it seems that Mayor Giuliani and others feel that a Black person has no reputation worth respecting but "we will teach them otherwise." Rev. Sharpton said he wouldn't allow his years of service as a leader in the nonviolent protest movement to be slanted by a "reckless overzealous, sinking mayor."

In his lawsuit, Sharpton charged that remarks by the mayor and Reiter

were deliberately calculated to hamper his chances for gaining support and raising campaign funds in several communities.

But despite Jacobs' ruling, Giuliani doesn't seem too impressed by the lawsuit. He accused Sharpton of trying to wage his campaign for mayor in the courtrooms. "There is an individual who specializes in smearing others but when the tables are turned, he starts to panic," Giuliani declared.

Before leaving the courtroom following the ruling, Sharpton's attorney Michael Hardy asked the judge for a guarantee that the Giuliani campaign wouldn't target his client in its campaign advertisements.

# President meets with black lawmakers

By Sonya Ross  
Associated press writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Clinton is considering whether to hold a White House conference on race as part of racial reconciliation campaign, members of the Congressional Black Caucus said Wednesday.

Caucus members said that Clinton, during an hour-long meeting with them, noticed that the issues they raised, urban school renovations, public hospital closings, the plight of black farmers and U.S. policy in Africa, all harked back to America's widening racial divide.

"All of this is about race, it is about providing opportunity," said Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., who chairs the caucus. "The president led us into discussion about elevating this subject matter and creating a discussion in America that help people to understand what is happening."

The White House did not comment on the caucus meeting. Officials confirmed privately that a conference was discussed, but said Clinton has not made a final decision.

Later Wednesday, Clinton told a Democratic fund-raiser that he was alarmed by figures released last week showing large drops in minority college enrollments in Texas and California. In California, the number of blacks and Hispanics admitted to the University of California's law school fell 81 percent and 50 percent, respectively, in the first year of race-neutral admission policies.

"I think it is a terrible mistake," Clinton said. "Our racial and ethnic diversity should be seen as an asset. I am proud of the fact that I have consistently opposed the dismantlement of all affirmative action programs."

Rep. Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.), Clinton expressed interest in finding ways to avoid a "slippery slope" on affirmative action that would cause minorities to lose ground economically.

"Affirmative action is a term that is applied to a broad array of things, from business development to professional schools to just a job," Clyburn said. "He thinks it may be an opportunity to use those numbers to say to the American people this is not what we want the future to be."

Clyburn said while that Clinton did not use the term "White House conference" on race, "he said we ought to have some kind of discussion. I think we may elevate this to a White House conference."

The president has pledged a major initiative on race, and he plans to start it with an address on the subject June 14 at the University of San Diego.

A White House task force is crafting the president's plan, and details of it have been kept secret. The caucus meeting provided the first public discussion of a conference on race.

Clinton also is considering town hall meetings and other once-a-month presidential events to highlight race issues and is looking to form a commission to examine multiracial and multi-ethnic issues facing the nation.

Black caucus members told Clinton they did not want a commission that replicates the 1968 Kerner Commission, which examined a spate of urban riots and concluded that blacks and whites in the United States lived in two "separate and unequal" societies.

Waters said Clinton "tried to outline what he did want, what he did not want" regarding a commission. She did not provide details of what Clinton said.

"The only thing we can share with you is the president is moving forward in the formulation of a commission," she said.

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The Staff  
of City News

# EDITORIAL

## DO THE RIGHT THING!

### Find out what kids need to achieve

Only racism would implement a funding plan to raise academic achievement, before studying what urban children really need to help them more effectively gain from schooling.

The New Jersey Supreme Court, by a vote of 5 to 1, recently declared Governor Whitman's school funding plan unconstitutional. The Court instructed the Governor to increase funding to the Special Needs districts by at least another \$220 million. These funds are to be used in improving the education of poor children. Writing for the opinion, Justice Handberg indicated that the Court ordered the State to study the special-needs educational needs of the special-needs districts and determine the costs associated with implementing the needed programs. These comments reflect that such a study was not conducted prior to the judicial finding. In other words, the Whitman "Core Curriculum Solution" for improving achievement levels of children in urban schools, was proposed without any study of what the students actually need to improve academic achievement.

We agree with the Whitman administration that just throwing more money at the urban schools will not increase achievement. However, we also note that the Whitman plan, while shifting the debate of "thorough and efficient" to the curriculum, doesn't address student outcomes and the educational delivery system needed to guarantee those outcomes. The plan seems to imply that including more courses will somehow translate into higher standards. This logic is totally misdirected. Whitman's plan implies that urban children are doing less well with current content, while simultaneously arguing that there isn't enough content. The proposal re-categorizes current content into a "core curriculum," adds a language requirement and Presto!—calls it a world class education.

While clearly the Core Curriculum lacks in holding schools accountable for achievement outcomes, it is most surprising that so many business leaders endorsed this plan, despite its failure to address the needs of far too many young people in acquiring the critical knowledge base needed to meet current educational standards.

Any solution to the failing educational achievement of urban children of color must go beyond just adding content. Through the Court we learn only now that no real effort was made beforehand to conduct needed research. Such research could determine what really needs to be done, in order to improve the educational outcomes of children in the Special Needs districts.

Fortunately, the Governor now has a second chance to rectify the matter. To fail again, and not conduct this research immediately, would be a double disservice to the children, the business community, tax payers, and the courts. Such inaction could jeopardize the future of this state. The only reasonable excuse for not conducting such a study, in the face of such compelling evidence, would be institutionalized racism, in its purest form.

We believe the State should conduct an intensive study of what must be done to increase achievement for children within Special Needs districts. Such a study will help New Jersey create generations of leaders. To do less sends a message to citizens that the Government doesn't care whether these young people learn or not. To do less would demonstrate that the Government believes that these young people can't, or shouldn't contribute to this State's economy and future.

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to the Education Law Center for a legal victory in the Abbott v. Burke school funding case. However, for the African-American Community the victory will be bittersweet. Already, you can hear the various representatives clamoring for a new look at the constitutionality of what must be efficient classes. They are suggesting a clarification or outright removal. In the black community, because we have failed to organize ourselves beyond mass mobilization during crises. We still don't have a clue as to how important that clause is to the legal strategy and to the struggle for quality education throughout the state we want parity and equity. We want equality of funding and programs. We want our children to have the same educational opportunities as the rest of the state. We must accept self criticism and organize beyond the minimum level of proficiencies contained in the core curriculum standards and that will be a struggle particularly in the Black and Latino districts where the state will offer up its version on how the money should be spent. Who will fight for our community as these decisions are made and at the same time educate the people about the inherent racism in all of this? How can we define education for black New Jersey into the next century.

Dennis Sanyika, Newark

Dear Editor:

All across the country, people heard the call to action from President Clinton, General Colin Powell and a host of other dignitaries in Philadelphia asking Americans to volunteer their time and talents in the cause of making this a better country for our nation's children.

Just in New Jersey alone, almost 300,000 children under the age of 12 are hungry or at risk of hunger on any

given day. They may not be starving like children in impoverished third-world countries, but chronic malnutrition causes a myriad of health problems, stunted growth and diminished capacity to learn. In this land of plenty, no one should have to go hungry.

Volunteers are the driving force behind the FoodBank's success - At the Community FoodBank, the combined efforts of 6,000 volunteers each year enables us to distribute 12 to 14 million pounds of donated food and other grocery items to 1500 charities where hungry people turn for help - soup kitchens, emergency pantries, homeless shelters, religious centers and senior programs, battered women's shelters and after school programs.

\$90K raised by company employees for March of Dimes walking over nine miles, serving lunch to almost 1,000 hungry people, carrying cases of bottled water, or picking up trash, sows laborers along the route are some of the things close to 100 Union County employees did to help raise money for the March of Dimes in their annual WalkAmerica.

You have helped us in the past. We hope you will accept the President's challenge to make an even bigger commitment in the future. With the cutbacks in government social programs, domestic hunger is expected to increase dramatically in the coming years.

So please, join countless corporate, civic and religious groups around the country and pledge to help make a difference in the lives of hungry people.

Kathleen DiChiara  
Exec. Dir., Food Bank of N.J.

## State GOP leadership "hypocritical" after ruling

The following is reprinted from a statement by the Black Ministers Council of New Jersey.

The Black Ministers Council of New Jersey views as hypocritical and cynical the call of Republican leaders to change the state constitution or have justices elected, because of the Supreme Court's decision on school funding. New Jersey's Supreme Court has been hailed as one of the best, if not the best state supreme court in the nation. Now because of a decision they don't like they want to change everything. Forget the fact that the Court has given the state more than 20 years to implement its order and it has not.

We find it interesting that the

Governor and the Commissioner of Education say that wealthy districts spending is excessive, but Republican leaders, rather than seeking to control it, went out of their way to find more money for them. These were the Garvey years when the funding plan passed. Yet they say that urban students, in old buildings with overcrowded classes, insufficient teachers and counselors, few libraries and fewer computers, don't need or deserve additional funding. And not only that, with all these needs, the special needs districts will not know what to do with the additional funds.

All of this fury and threats to change the constitution are a ploy to play to Republican constituencies and

not about quality education. We are saddened by their hypocrisy. What makes the quality of suburban children education, more important than that of urban children. Should any child be punished because of where they were born?

We do not believe any child or district should less spending to increase that for urban children, nor do we believe that there should be a continuing quest for dollars. If the Governor and the Commissioner of Education will sit down with urban educators and discuss the needs of urban, districts, this issue can be resolved. If not about the constitution or changing the court, its about sitting down and implementing the court

order.

The Council also believes that the state has a responsibility and should set in place strict guidelines for the accounting of all funds as should all districts. We supported the takeover of the Newark District because it failed, its children. But every urban district is not Newark, and the state failed in Newark as well.

We call upon the Assembly leadership, to abandon any efforts to change the constitution the appointment of Court Justices, but to work to see that all children, suburban, urban, wealthy, poor, all children, receives a world class education.

## Part II African Liberation Day 1997

Dr. Conrad W. Worrell

The month of May is very important in the worldwide African Liberation Movement. During this month, throughout the African World Community, African Liberation Day (ALD) is celebrated.

In Chicago, this historic event was held on Saturday, May 17, 1997 and was sponsored as it is every year by the National Black United Front (NBUF), Chicago chapter.

It is important that African Liberation Day (ALD) be a vehicle to continue to highlight the problems, challenges and the future of African people worldwide.

The changes facing Africa and African people worldwide require that we remain dedicated to the cause of Africa's redemption and liberation.

The colonial period in Africa, just as the enslavement of African people captured and brought to North America, had a devastating impact on Africa and African people.

African people did not sit idly by.

Just as we resisted our slave circumstances in America, African people resisted their colonial condition. Pan-African meetings were called to plot strategy to end colonial rule. The Garvey movement and the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) galvanized African people worldwide to embrace the idea of African independence under one God, One Aim and One Destiny. The Garvey period in our history, more than any other era, laid the foundation for what we now call African Liberation Day.

African people began waging a battle to reclaim their lands. This has been a long and bitter struggle. Resistance to white supremacy and colonial domination took many shapes and forms.

The Pan-African meetings (1900-1945) provided a mechanism for a small group of African leaders to plan and plot strategy for African freedom. The Garvey movement of the 1920's brought the idea of African freedom and independence to the masses of our people around the world. "Africa for the Africans - At Home and Abroad" was a slogan that cap-

tured the spirit of African people.

This slogan gave a clear understanding of who we are as a people and what we should be struggling for. It was not until the early 1950's that the first African country gained political independence in the movement to reclaim Africa.

That country was Ghana under the leadership of Kwame Nkrumah who led the Ghanaian people to their fight against British colonialism.

Shortly after this successful defeat of the British, Sekou Toure led the people of Guinea towards their independence from French colonialism. Right on the heels of this victory was the victory of Patrice Lumumba and the people of the Congo who won the battle, for a brief moment, against Belgium.

This independence movement sparked an onslaught of African people reclaiming their territories and led to the formation of the Organization of African People (OAU) in May 1963. This is why we celebrate ALD in May.

It is interesting to note that the Civil Rights movement in this country was sparked in Montgomery at

approximately the same time the independence movement turned from Civil Rights in the mid 1960's to Black Power. The reidentification with Africa and African people, led to the formation of the Black Liberation Movement during the late 1960's and early 1970's.

The call for support of our brothers and sisters fighting against the Portuguese in Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau led to the formation of the African Liberation Day held in the country on May 27, 1972 that attracted over 60,000 African people.

African Liberation Day has become an institution in America since that time when all Black people should come together. Whether you were born in Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Kenya, Ethiopia, South Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Alabama, Georgia, or Chicago, as long as you are Black you are an African with a common heritage and a common set of conditions. We must continue to fight against racism and white supremacy whenever African people live in the world.

## Tuskegee Apology: First Small Step

by Asika Muhammad

If there is wisdom in the ancient Chinese proverb: "The journey of 1,000 miles begins with the first step..." then perhaps it can be applied to President Bill Clinton's emotional public apology for the criminal Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment. It may also help us understand the hostile reaction to Clinton's apology on behalf of the American people for the "clearly racist" federal syphilis study of 399 Black men known as the "Tuskegee experiment."

At face value, this first-ever, formal apology from U.S. President for the wrongs done by America to her slaves and their descendants represents an important first step in the path to harmony, reconciliation, friendship, and eventual national union. But let us not forget the destination that this first step sets out help when we need care," the contrite

away. To acknowledge a wrong, to admit its truth, is one of the most difficult steps in the process of atonement and reconciliation, according to Minister Louis Farrakhan leader of the Nation of Islam, in his stirring keynote address to the Million Man March, at the U.S. Capitol Oct. 16, 1995.

In this case, Mr. Clinton's strong words, to the effect that the actions of the Tuskegee experiment were "shameful, outrageous," "deeply, profoundly, morally wrong," were barely appropriate to mask the ugly truth of what happened in Macon County, Alabama for nearly 40 years.

In 1972, the federal government began a study of 399 Black men over the age of 25 who had suffered from syphilis for more than five years. The ghastly study never even had the dignity of a protocol documenting its original intent. It was only supposed to last 6-12 months. In 1933 the Public Health Service decided to continue to observe, but not to treat the men. They were not told they had syphilis, but rather that they had "bad blood."

"Medical people are supposed to set

President told five survivors and the family members of three others in the East Room of the White House. "But even once a cure was discovered, they were denied help, and they were not told their government. Our government is supposed to protect the rights of its citizens, their rights were trampled upon."

In 1947, 15 years after the clearly unethical study began, penicillin became widely available for the treatment of syphilis. None of the men were treated, even though there was ample evidence that there were therapeutic benefits to treating even the late stages of the disease with penicillin.

When left untreated, syphilis produces rubbery tumors that form large craters ulcers on the skin. It eats away at bones, the liver, the heart, and the brain, and ultimately can cause paralysis, blindness and deafness.

The study continued until 1972 when it was exposed in the news media and then terminated. In 1973 the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare (Now Health and Human Services), ordered the Public Health Service to provide the men with medical care, but not before at

least 100 of them had died of syphilis or related complications, at least 40 wives had been infected, and 19 children had contracted the disease at birth.

With the President of the United States confessing to such ugly deeds, is there any wonder why so many Blacks in this country and around the world are mistrustful of the U.S. government's medical outreach activities? Is there any wonder why so many Blacks wonder about the possible truth of their darkest fears of even worse crimes which the government does not admit?

It is imperative now, that not just the President, but that the entire American body-politic search out all the hidden secrets in all the dark closets concerning the atrocities—from Middle Passage, through slavery, to 100 years of lynching, segregation, and oppression right up to this minute—for which atonement has not even begun, and then resolve to atone and make amends.

Mr. Clinton's apology to the survivors of the Tuskegee Syphilis study on May 15 is indeed a welcome first step on that long, long path.

## Blacks closing gap

continued from page 1

ages in 1994 showed minorities were more likely to be accepted at Michigan and its law school than at other colleges, he said.

Cohen has some allies in the state Legislature. Rep. Penny Crissman, R-Rochester, has a bill that would stop community colleges from raising, or adjusting test scores to account for social and economic factors.

Her bill also would prevent colleges from using preferential treatment in admissions, promotions and contract awards.

Four Republican state legislators have promised to challenge the University of Michigan's affirmative action policies. Reps. David Jay of Washington Township, Deborah Whymann of Canton Township, and Michele McCamus of Lake Leelanau and

Greg Kaza of Rochester Hills said they were seeking potential plaintiffs for a lawsuit.

In the national study, Hispanics also fell behind whites and blacks in completing high school, with a rate of 57 percent.

Among whites 25 to 29 years old, 26 percent had finished at least four years of college in 1995. For blacks, the rate was 15 percent. The percentages were the highest recorded for both groups since 1975, but the rate of almost 9 percent for Hispanics was lower than in the 1980s.

The council, an umbrella group for colleges, universities and educational associations, included the figures in its 15th annual report on "Minorities in Higher Education." The report included figures on educational attainment for the first time this year.

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**Publisher**  
Henry C. Johnson Ph.D.  
**Executive Editor**  
Jan M. Edgerton Johnson  
**Director of Advertising Sales**  
Henry C. Johnson  
**Contributing Writers**  
Asika Muhammad, Sharon Vincent,  
Avery Cray, Jeremee Johnson, Sonia  
Kimble-Ellis, Bill Reed,  
Deyle Jenkins  
**Composition & Layout**  
C.J. Johnson

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Serving the African American community for 13 years

A special section on Asian-Pacific Americans sought to dispel the myth of their being a "model minority."

Students from that group "are perceived as well-behaved, diligent high achievers who persevere and are academically successful despite the socioeconomic and linguistic obstacles," the report said.

That stereotype, however, conceals a wide range of educational experiences. It said. It noted a lack of even a fifth-grade education in 1990 for large numbers of some groups, such as Hmong, Cambodians and Laotians.

College participation ranged from 66 percent for Chinese-Americans to 26 percent for Laotian-Americans

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## KOTY TOWNS COMES TO NEW BRUNSWICK



NEW BRUNSWICK—Central Jersey's, Koty Towns, will model couture originals at the Second Annual Black Fashion Designers' Showcase. This one day event, is being presented by the Central Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers, at Crossroads Theatre, on Saturday, June 7, at 4 p.m. For more information call: (908)668-7743.

## CLINTON SOUTHWARD IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATES AND NEWARK BRANCH NAACP

The Clinton Hill Southward Improvement Association in cooperation with the Newark Branch NAACP will host a Candidates Forum. It will take place Saturday May 31, 1997 from 10:00am until 2:00pm at Abyssinian Baptist Church 224 West Kinney St. Newark, NJ, in the Thomas O'Neal Auditorium. Reverend Perry Simmons is pastor. The purpose of the Forum is to educate the community regarding critical issues of the June 3rd Primary and the coming November General Election. The Forum will discuss a number of issues of concern to the urban community and will make an effort to see where the candidates stand on the state takeover of Newark Public Schools, an issue that both the Clinton Hill Southward Improvement Assn. and the NAACP have taken a strong position against, and believe it is a constitutional infringement of the voting rights of the citizens of Newark. All candidates will be invited and treated fairly. All guests will be invited to join the Newark Branch NAACP and The Clinton Hill Southward Improvement Assn. and asked to give a donation to help defray the cost of the Forum.

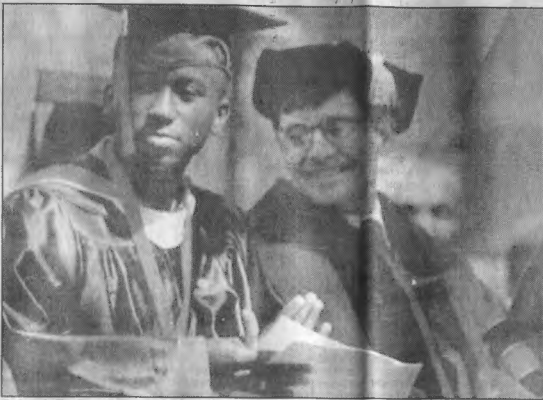
## "A BRIDGE TO EMPOWERMENT..." IS THE THEME OF THIS YEARS CBNN 17TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Concerned Black Nurses of Newark, Inc., is sponsoring its 17th Annual Scholarship Awards luncheon on May 31, 1997 from 11:30am to 4:00pm at the Newark Airport Marriott Hotel. Among the awarders are Dr. and Mrs. Henry and Jan Johnson, publisher and editor of CityNews, Minority Business Journal, and YES Magazine. Dr. and Mrs. Johnson are being recognized for their work in community service. Other awarders are Dr. Minnie Campbell—Nursing Education, Deanna Johnson—Clinical Nursing, Carolyn Franklin—Nursing administration, and Tara Moore, who is the CBNN Nurse of the Year. The theme for this year's luncheon is "A Bridge To Empowerment: The Health Profession In The Community and the keynote speaker is Barbara Sabol, MS, RN from the Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek Michigan. Donation is \$45.00. For more information, write to the CBNN at PO Box 8451 Newark, NJ 07108.

## DICK GREGORY SPEAKS AT NAACP BANQUET

TOMS RIVER—Activist, Author, and Lecturer Dick Gregory will be the guest speaker at the Lakewood NAACP's Freedom Fund Banquet Dinner on June 13 at the Ramada Inn. The dinner starts at 6:30 and tickets are \$45.00. For more information, call (908)363-0025.

# 9700 graduate from Rutgers



Ibukunolu Temitope Okusanya, vice president of the class of 1997 participates in the commencement

By Daryle Lamont Jenkins

PISCATAWAY—About 5000 attendees watched as Rutgers University's Class of 1997 received their degrees in the university's 231st anniversary commencement held last Thursday at the Louis Brown Athletic Center.

Graduation ceremonies at all the campuses began Wednesday and continued through Friday. Thursday's commencement exercises were when

all the graduates conferred. Remarks by University President Francis L. Lawrence were a part of the exercises. Also on hand to address the graduates and their families was Senator Robert Torricelli, who came from Washington for the commencement.

An estimated 9710 graduates received degrees this year. They included approximately 6,623 baccalaureate degrees and some 3,087 master's degrees and doctorates. Four honorary degrees were presented at the commencement with a total of six

to be presented this year. Those receiving those degrees were Robert P. Bergman, director of the Cleveland Museum, food scientist Samuel A. Goldblith, Ricardo Khan, co-founder and artistic director/producer of the Crossroads Theater, and author Joyce Carol Oates. Grammy Award-winning jazz musician Wynton Marsalis received an honorary degree in a separate ceremony in Newark the night before, and performed for the graduates at this commencement. On Friday, Sam Nujoma, President of the Republic of Namibia was also the recipient of a degree during ceremonies in Camden.

This year's estimated total number of graduates is up by 117 from last year's total of 9,593, according to a release from Rutgers.

## Dr. Henry Johnson keynote speaker at Citywide Teen Life conference

NEWARK—"Building a Stronger Family and Community for the Year 2000" is the theme for the 14th Annual Citywide Teen Life Conference and 7th Annual Student Poster Awards Luncheon. The conference will be held on Wednesday, May 28th at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

"Each year, 300 students attend conference workshops which are aimed at presenting viable life options, inspiring students to achieve their personal best and helping today's youth to better define and develop ways to improve the present, as well as future conditions in their neighborhood. Rev. George Ryder, conference chair and Assistant Director of Adolescent Programs, Family Life Institute, Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan New Jersey.

Henry Johnson, Ph.D., President and CEO, CityNews and Yes Com-

munications is delivering the keynote address during the morning session. Ten winners of the poster contest will be honored during the awards luncheon. Each will receive Certificates of Excellence and cash awards. The program will also feature a skit on teen related issues performed by members of the Family Life Institute's Teen Leadership Program.

Wednesday, May 28th has been declared "Teen Life Day in Newark." A representative from the Newark Mayor's Office is expected to present the proclamation at the conference.

The event is co-sponsored by the Teen Education and Leadership Program of Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan New Jersey, Family Life Institute, Newark Public Schools, Dept. of Guidance and Fine Art, New Jersey Institute of Technology Trio Program and the Mayors Office, City of Newark.

## Family child care provider Appreciation Day in Union County



Freeholder Chairman Linda Stender, 3rd left, presents a resolution proclaiming "Family Child Care Provider Appreciation Day" to, from left Suzanne Williamson, Director, Union County Monday Morning, Inc., Faithmahah El-Amin, a Union County Child Care Provider, Stender, Pat Mennuli, Executive Director, Community Coordinated Child Care, Lillian Hargrove, Monday Morning Provider, JoAnn Feinstein, Monday Morning Provider, and Nida E. Thomas, Community Coordinated Child Care Board Member, and member of the Human Services Advisory Council Executive Committee.

ELIZABETH—May 9 has been proclaimed: "Family Child Care Provider Appreciation Day" in Union County, to coincide with the national declaration, announced Freeholder Chairman Linda Stender.

"Community Coordinated Child Care of Hillsdale and other organizations are recognizing Family Child Care Providers as an important child care service, which are self-employed business owners working in their

homes caring for children of working parents," said Freeholder Chairman Stender. "They take care of small groups of children in a safe, nurturing environment, often up to 50 hours per week. Not everyone can work in this field, and they often are not fully appreciated or recognized. It is fitting that a special day has been proclaimed to honor them, which nationally will be the Friday before Mother's Day starting next year."

# Governor Whitman delivers keynote at statewide Law Enforcement Service

TRENTON—In remembrance of police officers killed in the line of duty Gov. Christine Whitman recently delivered the keynote address at the 13th Annual Statewide Law Enforcement Memorial Service in Ocean Grove.

"The officers we honor knew what it was like to walk in the shadow of death not just on the day they received their mortal wounds, but every day they put on the uniform," said Gov. Whitman. "Like every man or woman who makes law enforcement a career they understood the daily danger of the task they faced."

"What marks these New Jerseyans as heroes is not their lack of fear, but their willingness to serve their fellow citizens in spite of it," Gov. Whitman added.

She also honored two law enforcement agents for whom this year's service was dedicated. She recognized off-duty Teaneck Police Officer Robert Fisher who was killed during an attempted robbery, and

State Trooper Francis Bellarain, who died after sustaining injuries while in pursuit of a motorcycle believed to have been stolen.

"Today we add the names of Officer Robert Fisher and State Trooper Francis Bellarain to a list we wish never existed," said Governor Whitman. "By rising above fear to serve and protect, they elevated the quality of life for every New Jersey family."

The New Jersey Law Enforcement Memorial Service was sponsored by the New Jersey Chief's of Police and co-sponsored by the NJ Benevolent Association, NJ Fraternal Order of Police, NJ State Troopers Fraternal Association, NJ State Police, Federal Bureau of Investigations, NJ Sheriffs Association, NJ State Troopers NCO Association, NJ Prosecutors Association, NJ FBI National Academy, NJ Law Enforcement Explorers, NJ State Police Survivors of the Triangle, and the NJ Division of Criminal Justice.

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PLAINFIELD:  
1200 Westinghouse Avenue  
SHORT HILLS:  
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**SPRINGFIELD:**  
100 Main Street  
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS:  
Highway 71 and Millers Avenue  
TOMS RIVER:  
814 Foster Road, Bay Plaza  
UNION:  
5710 Springfield Avenue, Plaza 204

Equal Housing Lender

Equal Housing Lender

# Business Calendar

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

**JERSEY CITY**—Seminar for Financial and Technical Assistance for Small Businesses. For more information, call 908-714-1017.

**NEW YORK**—Marketing & Business Expo '97. For more information, call 212-522-7632.

## MONDAY, JUNE 2

**BASKING RIDGE**—Somerset Culinary Invitational at the Old Mill Inn. For more information, call 908-725-1552.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

**NEPTUNE**—RBP Small Business Golf Outing III. AARP Brook Country Club. For more information, call 201-242-6237 ext. 222.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 12

**NEW YORK**—Annual Forum, "Working Partnerships Entering the 21st Century: The Small Contractor and the Workforce," sponsored by the Regional Alliance for Small Contractors. At the Marriott World Trade Center. At the Marriott World Trade Center. For more information, call 212-435-6185.

## TUESDAY, JUNE 17

**NEW YORK**—Marketing Strategies & Techniques Seminar at Jacob K. Javits Federal Building. For more information, call 212-294-1234.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 19

**SPRINGFIELD**—Free investment seminar. For more information, call 1-800-347-5018.

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**Q.** Is it a problem if a child loses a primary tooth prematurely?



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To determine if this is advisable, the dentist will examine the area and take an X-ray. If the primary tooth was lost recently and the permanent tooth is expected to emerge soon, it's not likely to require action. But in other cases, the dentist might install a space maintainer to stabilize the adjacent teeth. The device is removed once the new tooth begins to move into place. If your child loses a primary tooth too early, make an appointment for an examination and evaluation.

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## University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

To keep getting great healthcare, you've got to push the right buttons.



Starting May 21, UMDNJ is operating with a whole new set of numbers. That's when the first three digits for telephone numbers on the Newark Campus will change from 982 to 972.

That, in June, the Newark Campus area code will change from (201) to (973).

The Princeton and New Brunswick Campuses area codes will change from (609) to (732).

(201) 982-0000 will become (973) 972-0000  
(609) 253-0000 will become (732) 253-0000

So remember, after Memorial Day Weekend, to reach UMDNJ, you'll have to push the right buttons.



## Drugstore chain opens first store in Newark



Newark Mayor Sharpe James and council members join developers from First Union Bank's 451 Bloomfield Avenue Urban Renewal Team at the grand opening ceremony for a new CVS Pharmacy in the North Ward's former Biase's Restaurant site. L-R: Leslie L. Lustader, developer; Council Member At-Large Luis Quintana; Vincent Barcelona, developer; North Ward Council Member Anthony Carrino; Mayor James and CVS representatives Jeff Fidler, Paul Randall, Jim Sheridan, Mike Snieleski and John Fineran.

**NEWARK**—Mayor Sharpe James cut the ribbon on a new CVS/Pharmacy at 451-461 Bloomfield Avenue today. The CVS store, the anchor for a new neighborhood convenience shopping center is the first national chain store on Bloomfield Avenue and the first only CVS in the city.

Once the site of Biase's, a well-known restaurant and catering hall that was destroyed by fire two years

ago, CVS Plaza is fully tenanted and includes the 10,000 square foot store/pharmacy, a Carvel franchise, Roberto's Pizzeria and a Laundromat.

### Superstore.

Biase's was an 85-year-old, family-owned, community landmark run by Larry Biase, brother of former

Newark Deputy Mayor Carmen Biase. The setting for hundreds of family occasions, from baptisms to weddings to funerals. Biase's was also a nexus for political rallies and local meetings.

"I am very pleased that CVS has decided to join Newark's renaissance by bringing quality services and jobs to the North Ward community and by enhancing this neighborhood's business district," stated the Mayor.

CVS Plaza, a \$3 million project enjoying 45 people, restores vitality to an important Newark retail business area. Financed by First Union Bank, CVS Plaza was developed by 451 Bloomfield Avenue Urban Renewal L.L.C.

This store represents CVS' commitment to provide the highest level of customer service and product selection to the people of Newark," stated Jeff Fidler, CVS Real Estate Representative.

"Newark can boast of 20 new neighborhood shopping centers built in the last ten years, stated Alfred Faiella, Executive Director of the Newark Economic Development Corporation.

Also attending the ribbon cutting were North Ward Councilman Anthony Carrino, John Fineran, CVS Regional Manager and representatives of Newark's business community.

## Harper elected PSEG Board



**NEWARK**—Conrad K. Harper, a former legal adviser of the United States Department of State and a twenty-year member of the Council on Foreign Relations, was elected today to the Board of Directors of both Public Service Enterprise Group Incorporated (PSEG) and its principal subsidiary, Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G).

Mr. Harper, a corporate attorney, who was appointed to the State Department in 1993 by President Clinton, returned to the New York City law firm of Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett in 1996. He first joined the firm in 1971 as an associate and became a partner in 1974 specializing in commercial litigation and dealing with many Fortune 500 companies as an advisor and litigator.

Mr. Harper's federal experience also includes an appointment as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in 1977 and as a representative of the United States to the Permanent Court of Arbitration at the Hague.

"Conrad Harper is an extremely important addition to the leadership of our company," said E. James Ferland, chairman and CEO of Enterprise. "His experience in business, government, international affairs and the law offer a unique and impressive perspective. It is particularly significant for this company as we expand our vision and expectations for growth."

"Moreover, he is broadly recognized both for his scholarship and for his commitment to important issues of social justice in this country," said Ferland.

Mr. Harper graduated magna cum laude from Howard University, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1965. For five years, he was a staff attorney at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, a position he left in 1971 upon joining Simpson Thacher & Bartlett.

Presently, Mr. Harper is a director of the New York Life Insurance Company, a trustee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of various bar associations including the International, American, National, New York State, Metropolitan Black Bar Association and the Federal Bar Council.

He and his wife live in Livingston, New York and are the parents of two sons.

## Local Mobil Station Receives Sales Award

**PLAINFIELD**—Bill Jarkas, owner of North Plainfield Mobil at Somerset Street in North Plainfield, was recently honored by the Mobil Corporation and R.P.C., Inc. at Mobil's annual meeting for New Jersey service station owners, managers and distributors. North Plainfield Mobil is one of twelve stations statewide honored for outstanding gasoline sales in 1996. Larry Ray, R.P.C. Inc. on the left and Lyn Rinehart, Mobil Oil Corporation, on the right are presenting the award to Bill Jarkas in the middle.

The annual meeting was held to share information about the progress of "Franchise 2000", the partnership between Mobil and its retailers. Mobil sponsored the awards ceremony to recognize service station operators for meritorious years of service and for providing the highest levels of customer service, appearance and increased sales.



## Whitman honors 12 Work First New Jersey corporate partners

**NEW JERSEY**—Gov. Christine Whitman today honored Work First New Jersey's first 12 corporate partners for their commitment to increasing employment opportunities for welfare clients as they re-enter the workforce and highlighted school-to-work partnerships to prepare New Jersey students for the workforce.

The Governor was joined by executives from the 12 corporate partners in Work First New Jersey for the announcement which will make more than 7,000 private sector jobs available to welfare recipients.

The 12 businesses have either hired welfare recipients in the past and are interested in hiring more, or are interested in hiring welfare recipients. Each signed a pledge to continue as

corporate partners with the Work First New Jersey welfare program.

The 12 Work First New Jersey corporate partners are Bell Atlantic, Newark, Federal Express, Newark, United Parcel Services, Secaucus, Raritan Center, National Telecommunications, Bloomfield, Harbison Group, Parsippany, Bound Brook, Muralco Company, Bayonne, Kennedy Memorial Hospital, Cherry Hill, New Jersey, Sports and Exposition Authority/Service America, Atlantic City, Renaissance Development Corporation, New Brunswick, Sistematica, Inc., Trenton, Borg Warner Protective Services, Camden, Jersey City, Newark and Trenton, and First Occupational Center, East Orange.

The Governor, Labor Commissioner Mel Gelade, Commerce and Economic Development Commissioner Gail Medina and Human Services Commissioner William Waldman also thanked Prudential, Public Service Electric & Gas, the State Employment and Training Commission, the Amelior Foundation, New Jersey Business and Industry Association and Prosperity New Jersey for supporting the corporate partners program.

The corporate partners project will provide 7,000 entry-level job openings this year for which Work First New Jersey recipients can apply. Many corporate partners also offer on-the-job training positions and work experience for Work First New Jersey recipients.

Presently, Mr. Harper is a director of the New York Life Insurance Company, a trustee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of various bar associations including the International, American, National, New York State, Metropolitan Black Bar Association and the Federal Bar Council.

He and his wife live in Livingston, New York and are the parents of two sons.

## Union County honors Hillside Urban Enterprise Zone on 1st anniversary



Union County Freeholder Chairwoman Linda Stander presents a resolution to Mayor Samuel T. McGehee, left, and Urban Enterprise Zone Director Robert Jones, center, in recognition of the 1st anniversary of Hillside's Urban Enterprise Zone, the third of such "Zones" established in the County.

**UNION COUNTY**—The successful implementation of the Urban Enterprise Zone Program will continue to boost Hillside's economy through the provision of incentives for businesses to expand or relocate their operations, and create new jobs and generate revenue to improve the infrastructure without tax increases," said Freeholder Chairwoman Stander. "The Hillside Enterprise Zone has successfully recruited 107 businesses as members and attracted nine new businesses, resulting in commitments for the creation of over 150 new full-time jobs and investments of over \$9 million for renovations, expansion and new equipment purchases."

Through the collection of the 3 percent sales tax, the Urban Enterprise Zone has accumulated over \$500,000 which will benefit the Township of Hillside.

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**WYNNEET WILLIAMS** **PAULIE TAYLOR** **THE LARSEN MARXMAN** **AND** **REVIEWS RABIN** **CHAD OMAN**  
**JONATHAN HENSLER** **PETER BODART** **JIM KOLF** **LYNN BIGELOW** **THE SCOTT ROBERTS** **JOHN DEER**

**CASTING BY** **JERRY BRUCKHEIMER** **DAVID SIMON WEST**

**STARTS FRIDAY, JUNE 6**

# Religious Calendar

**EVERY TUESDAY**  
**HACKENSACK**—Prayer service, 7:30 p.m. Donation \$5.00. For more information call (201) 346-6118

**EVERY THURSDAY**  
**HACKENSACK**—Chocolate Christian Singles is having an after work house gospel jam 7 p.m. For more information call (201) 346-6118.

**EVERY SATURDAY**  
**HACKENSACK**—House Mix & Mingle, 6 p.m. For more information call (201) 342-6118.

**EVERY SUNDAY**  
**HACKENSACK**—After Church House Get Together 4 p.m. - Donation \$5.00. For more information call (201) 342-6118.

**SATURDAY, MAY 31**  
**OCEAN GROVE**—Sopranos at the Boardwalk Pavilion. Part of the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association's Gospel Musical Ministry Series. For more information, call 908-775-0035.

**RUTHERFORD**—Mt. Ararat Baptist Church is sponsoring a "Men Who Cook for the Mount" event at the women's club of Rutherford, Inc. For more information, call 201-460-1820

**SUNDAY, JUNE 1**  
**OCEAN GROVE**—Join Jordan and Karen DeKock at the Boardwalk Pavilion. Part of the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association's Gospel Musical Ministry Series. For more information, call 908-775-0035.

**JUNE 6 THROUGH 8**  
**PLAINFIELD**—Faith Christian Outreach Center will be celebrating Pastor Wilbur W. and Carolyn R. Robinson's 20th year in ministry. For more information, call 908-754-2332.

**JUNE 7**  
**PATERSON**—Westminster Presbyterian Church is presenting an outdoor "FLEA MARKET." For more information, call 201-945-4825.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 2**  
**NEW YORK**—Bethany Baptist Church Sound Ministry Presents a Day in New York/Evening with "Cali." For more information, call 800-754-2220.

Send your announcements to:  
City News  
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07061

**THE ONLY THING WORSE THAN LOSING A CHILD TO AIDS IS FINDING OUT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO.**

(Thousands of women who take AZT as AZT only treats the AIDS virus for 100 days after the virus enters the body. After that time, the virus enters the bloodstream and stays there for the rest of their lives. AZT does not help stop the virus from spreading to others. If more people knew about AZT, they would be able to live longer.)

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## Newark woman celebrates 105th birthday at Beth Israel Medical center

NEWARK—Although Georgia Hearn admits to wondering why she has outlived so many of her friends and family members, at a recent celebration of her 105th birthday at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center's Geriatric Medical Day Care Center, Mrs. Hearn said life has been good to her despite its ups and downs. "I never had any trouble finding work and life's been pretty good," Mrs. Hearn said before cutting her birthday cake in front of a group of Geriatric Day Care Center friends, some of whom were at the Day Care Center when she celebrated her 100th birthday. "But I sometimes lie down late at night and think about why I am here."

The petite, gray-haired, mother of six, grandmother of eight, great grandmother of 22, great, great grandmother of 38 and great, great, great grandmother of four, was born

on April 23, 1892 in Washington, D.C. She was 16-years-old when she came to Newark looking for work and a place to live. "I was all alone and I remember standing on the railroad tracks looking around," Mrs. Hearn reminisced at the Day Care Center gathering, an affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System. "I got off those tracks real fast when I saw the train."

Although she does not remember the names of the friends who talked her into coming to New Jersey, Mrs. Hearn says she met her husband, the late Isaac Hearn, in Newark and raised her children, three of whom are deceased, here.

One of Mrs. Hearn's top priorities all those years ago was finding a church at which to worship. She chose St. James A.M.E. Church on High Street where she sang with the Gospel

Chorus, was a member of the Pastor Aide Society, and helped organize

the Nurses Unit. Today, Mrs. Hearn is the oldest

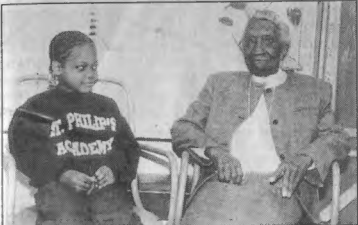


PHOTO CAPTION: Georgia Hearn celebrates her 105th Birthday at the Newark Beth Israel Medical Center's Geriatric Medical Day Care Center with special friends, including seven-year-old Emily Hall, the granddaughter of Center Director Diane Mayo.

member of St. James Church, a Communion Steward, and an honorary member of the Nurses Unit.

She credits her longevity, in part, to being active in her community. Since 1944, Mrs. Hearn has been a member of the Temple Marching Club and was the first woman chairperson of the Antler Guard Mid Winter Encampment, held in Newark. In 1966 Mrs. Hearn became the Lt. General of the Northern New Jersey Antler Guard Department of New Jersey.

Mrs. Hearn, who does not wear eyeglasses, is part of a sewing group on Monday that joined with the children at George Washington Carver school to make a handmade quilt.

Diane Mayo, director of the Geriatric Day Care Center, said Mrs. Hearn is revered by the staff as well as its members. "She is an inspiration to all of us," Mrs. Mayo. "We are delighted to honor her on her 105th birthday."

## Tuskegee Airman: 'It's American history'

BLUEFIELD, W.Va. (AP)—When he boarded the old Northfork and Western train at the "Colored Only" platform of the Bluefield passenger station, Thomas Harris Mayfield didn't know he would be going off to help write one of the most intriguing chapters of American history.

"I was walking between classes here in Bluefield State when a friend of mine asked me to come with him and join the Army Air Corps," Mayfield, 80, said after being recognized with his classmates in the Class of 1947. The 47 grads were on campus recently celebrating their 50th anniversary graduation.

"I had never heard of the Army Air Corps at that time, but I went along with him," Mayfield said. "Both of us took a test, and a man there at the recruiting station told us to come back the next evening."

The intervening hours were filled with doubt for Mayfield. He had come to Bluefield State on a football scholarship from his home in Shinston. In another year, he would have his diploma. It was April of 1941. America wasn't at war.

Even with all those doubts, Mayfield and his friend returned to the recruiter's office at the appointed hour. "At 10 o'clock, I was on a train heading for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, (Ohio)," he said.

At the base, Mayfield joined scores of other African-Americans from the region. The next two weeks were filled with additional testing. "After about two weeks, a man came walking down the line and said: 'You. Not you. Not you. You. Come with me.' It was me, he was pointing at me."

Mayfield was sent to Maxwell Field near Mobile, Ala. After more testing, he went through basic training, and the preliminary steps of Air Corps training. He had completed his training and was essentially in a state of military limbo when "I woke up one morning, and there it was on the radio. We were at war."

Maxwell Field was "locked down" according to Mayfield. "We had a little inspection, but there wasn't much going on." Then the call came

for the African-American soldiers at Maxwell to move to Tuskegee.

"I was with the first group who went there," he said with pride. "The base wasn't bad at all. In fact, we had only white instructors, but it wasn't long until some black pilots started coming back home so we had black pilots training black pilots."

The Tuskegee Airmen were a controversial unit in their time. A Home Box Office original movie released last year outlined both the prejudices the airmen faced, as well as their success in air combat. At the time, institutional racism in America held sway, and a popular thought circulated that African-Americans were incapable of even flying an airplane much less flying a plane in combat.

The Tuskegee Airmen were recruited from among the finest black colleges in the United States. They were intelligent, highly-motivated, skilled and excellent officers and leaders. The combined medal total of the various air units that were made up of Tuskegee Airmen was impressive. While flying bomber escort, the Tuskegee pilots in their P-51 Red Tailed Mustangs never lost an escorted bomber to enemy aircraft.

Mayfield was originally assigned to the 99th Pursuit Squadron. "We had top-notch entertainment on the base all the time. We had great foot ball, basketball and baseball teams. The other black colleges in the South would come down and play us. We'd take on anyone."

"Once you went off the base, it was a different story," he said. "When I was coming up in Shinston, I didn't know I was black until I went to school. There were about four black families living together. I had several Italian families living on one side of us and some Polish families on the other side. My best friend when I was coming up was David Hardesty, the father of the same David Hardesty who is president of WVU now."

"But when I went to school, I had to walk right past the white elementary school and go to the colored school," he said. "That was when I found out I was different."

Bluefield State head football Coach James Rowland connected with Kelly-Miller High School Coach

Cardwell and recruited Mayfield as a guard in 1938. "Elbaine" Tea Cup Willis and I started out playing as freshmen," Mayfield said. "We were on the first team. Dreyfus Fore was our line coach, and I played right guard. We only played 60 minutes a game."

After they completed their training, the War Department didn't know what to do with the men of the "Fighting 99th." Eventually, a few pilots were sent to North Africa, and later to Italy. But Mayfield and several others were assigned to the 447th Bomb Group, and sent to Godman Field, adjacent to Fort Knox in Kentucky.

"I didn't do anything different than anyone else," Mayfield said. "That's just where they sent me."

Mayfield trained as both a pilot and a bombardier on a B-25, but he spent the duration in Kentucky. "The worst part of being there was that toward the end of the war, we had a lot of German prisoners at Fort Knox. They wore shirts with big 'Ps' on them, and could go anywhere they wanted to go. We were stuck out in a corner of the camp behind a fence. We couldn't even get out of the corner."

Mayfield left the Air Corps after

the war, returned to Bluefield where he received his bachelor of science degree in Commercial Education in 1947. He then met and married his wife, Barbara. The Mayfields now live in Willingboro, N.J., and have three grown children: Thomas A., Dorian Nixon and Barbara A. Mayfield. He was recalled into the Air Force in 1952 during the Korean War, and stayed in until retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1970.

"I had some good assignments in the Air Force," he said, "but I didn't move along the ranks like I should have. Don't get me wrong, I was proud of making Lieutenant Colonel. When I went back in 1952, I came in as a First Lieutenant. I was passed over four times before I moved up to Captain."

"You've got to have a sponsor to move up in the ranks," he said. "It doesn't matter if your record is spotless, you need someone to draft on. Networking can do you a lot of good."

"The younger ones don't know the kind of sacrifices we went through to get where we are now," he said. "We need to tell them that we're the ones that got them where they are today. It takes people a long time to recognize things from the past. If I

## Religious leaders condemn discrimination in Germany

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In an historic press conference, Christian, Muslim and Scientology religious leaders issued a joint ultimatum to the German government to end its escalating campaign of economic and social destruction against religious and racial minorities, or face the intensified exposure of Germany as a totalitarian state masquerading as a democracy.

The religious leaders, all members of the Freedom for Religions in Germany (FRG) coalition, cited increasing acts of government instigated violence and intolerance against ethnic and religious minorities as well as attempts by government officials to cover up the true nature and effects of its campaign.

Dr. Timothy Birkelt, Executive Director of the Protestant Conference on Churches and Clergy in New York, stated that Africans contacting his organization for immigration assistance

tance over the past few years have been complaining more and more about racial discrimination encountered in Germany.

"I emphatically disagree with any discrimination against any minorities in Germany," stated Birkelt, "whether they be Christian, Scientist or African. This has got to end."

"In Roman times it was considered great sport to watch Christians being ripped and torn to pieces by lions," explained FRG member Dr. George Robertson. "That is what is happening in Germany today to members of religious minorities. The only difference is that the corrupted Roman rulers of the past have been replaced by German officials, and the lions by the German media."

The speakers included Khaled Saffuri, executive director of the African Muslim Council in Washington, D.C.; Dr. Timothy Birkelt, executive director of the Protestant

Conference on Churches and Clergy in New York; Dr. George Robertson, Professor of Religion, Maryland Bible College in Baltimore and Leisa Goodman, Human Rights Director for the Church of Scientology International. Abuses cited by the panel included:

\*Increasing racial discrimination against Africans.

\*A rise in assaults against Turkish Muslims from 93 in 1994 to 237 in 1995.

The Christian Church of Cologne, attacked by about 1200 worshippers weekly, was denied a permit for a new building despite full compliance by the Church with city codes. An anti-Christian church was raided by police and detectives after a TV program charged it with the death of three members even though the Church—actually—had never considered anti-Semitism. Seven cases ensued, all of which the church won, but only after a hard and expensive court fight.

\*I order issued by German Minister of Labor Norbert Blum that all 150,000 owned businesses be identified with an "S" in government computer databases in order to implement a boycott of these companies.

"The German government's anti-democratic decrees against religious minorities and its rhetoric of hate carried in publications, speeches and mass media are being deliberately used to incite an increasing level of physical and economic violence against innocent, law-abiding German citizens not because of anything they have done, but for what they believe," charged FRG member and Church of Scientology spokesperson Leisa Goodman.

"These abuses," Goodman added, "clearly place Germany in violation of international human rights accords to which it is a signatory. This is an intolerable situation. It must end and the ERG will continue its work until it does."

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**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PLAINFIELD**  
510 EAST FRONT STREET  
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY  
**INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS**  
**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PLAINFIELD BID #97 - P967**  
**UPGRADE OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS**

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PLAINFIELD WILL RECEIVE SEALED PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED VENDORS FOR THE PURCHASE, INSTALLATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF A COMPUTER-BASED FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM.

ON THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1997 AT 10:00 A.M.

IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE AUTHORITY TO UPGRADE OR REPLACE ITS PRESENT SYSTEM AND TO FULLY AUTOMATE ITS VARIOUS ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS. ALL BID PACKAGES MUST CLEARLY INDICATE THE SPECIFIC PROPOSAL NUMBER AND WILL BE ADDRESSED AND RECEIVED ON THE ABOVE DATE BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PLAINFIELD, 510 EAST FRONT ST., PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07060 AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE INDICATED ABOVE. SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE UPGRADE OF THE COMPUTER SYSTEM WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS, (TELEPHONE NUMBER 908) 769-6233.

ARRANGEMENTS TO PREVIEW THE PRESENT SYSTEM AND MAKE CALLING. CAUTIO GARCIA, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AT (908) 769-6235 EXT. 617.

BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF P.L. 1975-122, THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PLAINFIELD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS IN THE EVENT THAT LESS THAN TWO (2) BIDS ARE RECEIVED. THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PLAINFIELD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY PARTIAL BIDS, AND TO AWARD ALL OR A PORTION OF THE AWARD TO ONE OR MORE RESPONSIBLE BIDDERS.

NO BIDS SHALL BE WITHDRAWN FOR A PERIOD OF SIXTY (60) DAYS SUBSEQUENT TO THE OPENING OF BIDS WITH THE CONSENT OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PLAINFIELD.

CAROLYN REESE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**SECURITY SERVICES**

The Housing Authority of the City of Atbury Park is requesting proposals from interested security firms/contractors to provide basic 24-hour security service at one of its family sites.

Proposals will be accepted until 12:00 noon, June 5, 1997.

Interested applicants may obtain a request for proposal (RFP) package at the Housing Authority of the City of Atbury Park, 1000 102 Third Avenue, Atbury Park, New Jersey 07713, Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 2 PM, or may call (908) 774-2000 ext 13 to have a package mailed to them.

**\$33.80**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF RAYHAW**

The Housing Authority of the City of Rayhaw is seeking a multi-disciplinary Architectural and Engineering (A/E) firm to provide professional services for the implementation of work items in the ongoing Comprehensive Grant Programs (CGP) as follows:

NJ22-1 Interior and exterior apartment renovations (11 buildings totaling 78 units)

NJ22-2 Interior apartment renovations on units 1 (1 building/interior renovations) (2 buildings)

Interested A/E firms are invited to contact John P. McGrath, Executive Director at 908-696-0068, ext. 11, if there are any questions on the construction.

The Specifications for the "Request for Proposal" (RFP) may be obtained at the Administration Office, 165 E. Grand Ave., Plainfield, NJ Mon. thru Fri. from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Proposals are to be submitted to the Executive Director or before the deadline date of JUNE 10, 1997, 12 O'CLOCK NOON.

JOHN P. MCGRATH  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF RAYHAW

**\$65.00**

**NEW JERSEY HIGHWAY AUTHORITY**  
**GARDEN STATE PARKWAY**  
**WOODBURGE, NEW JERSEY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Sealed Bids will be received by the New Jersey Highway Authority for:

A MINORITY BUSINESS SET ASIDE PROCUREMENT COARSE PAPER/STANDARD PRODUCTS

ON MAY 30, 1997 AT 3:00PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Sealed Bids will be received by the New Jersey Highway Authority from vendors qualifying as New Jersey Minority Businesses pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 1983, Chapter 482, N.J.S.A. 52:20-17 et. Seq. Only those businesses which meet the requirements and is qualified by the Department of Commerce and Economic Development may submit bid proposals.

Bids for the above will be received in the Division of Central Purchasing on the date(s) and time(s) specified above and will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidders are required to comply with requirements of P.L. 1973, c. 127.

Bid Forms, Specifications, and Terms and Conditions are on file in the Division of Central Purchasing, New Jersey Highway Authority, Garden State Parkway, Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095 and may be obtained between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays.

ANGELA CORIO  
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL PURCHASING  
NEW JERSEY HIGHWAY AUTHORITY

**INVITATION TO BID**

The Housing Authority of the City of Atbury Park will receive sealed bids for the following: **Director's Office and Maintenance Office**, J.P. 7-5, 7-6 and 7-7 and 1000 a.m. on June 24, 1997 at the Administration Office located 1000 102 Third Avenue, Atbury Park, New Jersey 07713. Bids will be opened at the above address and need not be. A Pre-Bid Conference will be held June 17, 1997 at 10:00 AM at the Administration Office at which time you will be able to visit the site and look at the equipment.

Proposed forms of contract documents including technical specifications are available at the Housing Authority of the City of Atbury Park, 1000 102 Third Avenue, Atbury Park, New Jersey 07713. Bids must be submitted to the Administration Office, 1000 102 Third Avenue, Atbury Park, New Jersey 07713.

Bid forms of contract documents including technical specifications are available at the Housing Authority of the City of Atbury Park, 1000 102 Third Avenue, Atbury Park, New Jersey 07713. Bids must be submitted to the Administration Office, 1000 102 Third Avenue, Atbury Park, New Jersey 07713.

The successful bidder shall be required to comply with New Jersey's Prevailing Wage Act and local minimum wage and regulations that apply to projects that are funded by the department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Authority shall issue a contract with two-year maintenance and service coverage which will begin on the first day of the month preceding the contract signing.

The Housing Authority of the City of Atbury Park reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Authority also reserves the right to open bids if fewer than 2 are received.

**\$75.00**

**CONSTRUCTION**  
**CLERK OF THE WORKS**

The Housing Authority of the Town of Boonton, New Jersey, is seeking a person with extensive experience in the construction industry, high-rise building, maintenance and heating systems. This position will serve as the Owner's representative liaison on a \$5 million + modernization project. Ancillary duties also involve the inspection of dwelling units for conformity with required habitability standards based on current contract dates.

Familiarity with work in a public agency atmosphere, HUD program, and housing inspection requirements according to building and/or other regulations is desirable. A valid driver's license is required.

This contract position will require a 40 hour work week and will last for approximately one year. Interested parties should send or fax a letter of interest, detailed resume, salary requirements and references to:

Sheryl L. Sene  
Executive Director  
The Housing Authority of the Town of Boonton  
360 Hawkins Place  
Boonton, NJ 07005

Applications will be accepted through April 30, 1997.

For more information call (201) 335-0846. Fax (201) 335-0955

**EO Employer**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK**  
**FOR INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT**

The Housing Authority of the City of Newark (NHA) will receive sealed bids for Industrial Equipment:

ON TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1997 AT 10:00 A.M.

97-91381 OUTRIGHT PURCHASE OF

AN ELECTRICAL BUCKET TRUCK

All bid packages shall clearly indicate the specific applicable bid number and be addressed and received on the above date by the Contracts Division, Housing Authority of the City of Newark, 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07103 which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Newark Housing Authority, 57 Sussex Avenue, Newark, New Jersey, first floor conference room (0390).

ON TUESDAY, MAY 6, 1997 AT 10:00 A.M.

97-91318 OUTRIGHT PURCHASE OF

AN ELECTRICAL BUCKET TRUCK

Bid Specifications for the above are available for pick up at the Contracts Division of the NHA at the said address. Telephone: 201-432-2558.

Bid Bonds and Performance Bonds are not required for these bids. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1965-122 Affirmative Action Act.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids in the event that less than two (2) bids are received at the designated time of bid opening. The NHA reserves the right to reject any partial bid or to award all or a portion of the award to one or more responsible bidders.

No bid that will be withdrawn a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the NHA.

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

The Housing Authority of the City of Atbury Park invites applicants (individuals or firms) to submit their qualifications for consideration in providing the PWA with Architectural/Engineering services. Items include site improvement, surface parking areas, sidewalk, curbing and aggregate storm drainage and catch basins at Atbury Park, Irvington, New Jersey. Applicants must provide services necessary to prepare plans and specifications for the design, bidding and implementation of the 1997 CGP HAWTHORNE PROGRAM (CGP). Interested applicants may obtain a request for proposal (RFP) at the Housing Authority of the City of Atbury Park, 1000 102 Third Avenue, Atbury Park, New Jersey 07713. RFPs are available between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday May 14th thru June 10th 1997. All proposals must be submitted by June 10, 1997 by 12:00 noon.

**\$41.80**

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

**ADDENDUM I**  
**AMENDMENT TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

**NOVITA HOPE PROGRAM**

**FOR**

**THE PATERSON HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**CITY OF PATERSON**

**PROPOSAL DEADLINE DATE: JUNE 2, 1997 - PUBLISHED: APRIL 26, 1997**

THE ABOVE NUMBERED SOLICITATION FOR NOVITA HOPE PROGRAM FOR THE PATERSON HOUSING AUTHORITY CITY OF PATERSON IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

**DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT:**

SECTION: Invitation to Request for Proposal Paragraph 4.1.5. Section 10 To Table of Content Request for Proposal.

ALL PROPOSALS MUST REACH THE HOUSING AUTHORITY BY MONDAY, JUNE 9, 1997, NO LATER THAN 10:00 A.M. THIS DEADLINE IS FIRM AS TO DATE AND HOUR.

Specifications covering the above requirements may be obtained at the office of the Authority during office hours between 9:00 and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

A request Request for Proposal (RFP) will be based on the above, May 19, 1997 covering all changes in the RFP, including the revised submittal deadline.

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF PATERSON**  
**FELIX RAYMOND, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**CIRCULATION AND DISTRIBUTION**  
Independent contractor to be responsible for mailing and distribution of City News publication to subscribers and newstands 5 days a week. Must also develop distribution in the following areas:

Newark, East Orange, Orange, Irvington, Millside, Elizabeth, Paterson, Jersey City, Hackensack, Teaneck, Englewood, New Brunswick, Trenton

FEE: \$350 per week. Must have truck or suitable vehicle for delivery of approximately 30,000 newspapers per week, insurance and valid NJ driver's license. Opportunity to build distribution company with City News as anchor. Call (908) 754-3600 or send resume to:

**City News Publishing Company**

144 North Ave.

Plainfield, NJ 07060

**LOCAL REPORTER**

Local, weekly newspaper seeks well written, resourceful reporters for Newark, East Orange, Elizabeth, Irvington, Millside, Paterson, Teaneck, Englewood, Hackensack, Plainfield, Montclair, Camden, Trenton, Willingboro, Atbury Park, New Brunswick. Send 3 clips and resume to CN Personnel, PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

A National talent magazine is looking for young people to be

team reporters. Team reporters are wanted to get comments from teens on issues including the environment, drugs, and social issues. Teens should send their name, address, phone number, school name, school address, grade and age to:

**YES! Teen Reporters**

**PO Box 191 Plainfield, NJ 07060**

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**City News**

**908-753-1036**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (A1)**

Fast-paced, local newspaper seeks administrative assistant for general clerical work. 2 yrs exp. 60 wks. Microsoft word.

Send resume and salary requirements to:

**Personnel, PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Administrative Assistant to Director of Operations**

Provides responsible secretarial and administrative support in a variety of complex matters for the Director of Operations. Position requires initiative and excellent people and communications skills. Work, Learn or Excel

**Volunteer Manager**

Responsible for the development, supervision and training of a volunteer group. This individual must insure that all corporate standards for professionalism are adhered to. Skills: Five years experience as volunteer coordinator, preferably in the area of performing arts. Academic qualifications may be substituted for a portion of the work experience.

**Security and Safety Supervisor**

Develop and maintain a security and safety program for NIPAC. Responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the fire alarm and other emergency monitoring systems. Monitor and maintain all aspects of the security system. Supervise all in-house and contract security personnel. Supervise all in-house and contract security personnel. Supervise all in-house and contract security personnel. Supervise all in-house and contract security personnel.

Qualifications: Three years experience in security operations working with the public, preferably in an entertainment facility setting. Advanced security training and/or certification.

**Writer/Editor**

Full-time writer/editor with demonstrable published writing experience and specific professional knowledge of one or more performing arts disciplines to write and/or edit critical program books, sales materials and other assignments as needed. Excellent proofreading skills are also required.

**Retail Supervisor**

Part Time/Full Share (2 people)  
An exciting position which will be shared by two individuals responsible for the profitable and efficient operation of a unique retail store located within the Performing Arts Center. Recommend, price and order inventory. Formulate and install display, manage inventory, hire, train, schedule, motivate and supervise both paid and volunteer staff.

Qualifications: Five years of progressive responsibility in small retail operations.

**NIPAC**

**E.O.E. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE**

ACCOUNTANTS	ACCOUNTANTS	BEAUTY SUPPLY	CATERER/HALL RENTAL	CONSULTANTS	CONTRACTORS
<b>BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC.</b> 3008 Northwood Pike Jersey City, NJ 07310 201-798-8244	<b>TALIAFERRO &amp; ASSOCIATES</b> 20 Monroe Court East Windsor, NJ 08520 609-443-0985	<b>IBS INDEPENDENT BEAUTY SUPPLY</b> 93 Monticello Ave. Jersey City, NJ 07304 201-333-3350	<b>IRVINGTON MANOR</b> 43 Washington Ave. Irvington, NJ 07111 201-374-9454	<b>GUSTAV HENNINGSON ASSOCIATES</b> 40 Clinton St. Newark, NJ 07102 201-624-6715 Consulting/Free consulting	<b>EVANBOW CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.</b> 67 Sanford Street East Orange, NJ 07018 201-674-1250 Fax: 201-674-1227
<b>CREDIT</b>	<b>EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>	<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>	<b>EMPLOYMENT/TEMPS</b>	<b>INTERNET SERVICES</b>	
<b>CRED-EX INFORMATION SERVICES INC.</b> 900 Park Ave. Plainfield, NJ 07060 908-756-4177 Fax: 908-756-9576	<b>NEWARK EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR FAMILIES, INC.</b> 303 Washington St. Newark, NJ 07042 201-643-5727	<b>MOBILE DJ'S</b> 908-755-4711 Ask for C.J. Parties, events, tapes	<b>CAD ASSOCIATES INC.</b> 440 Bloomfield Ave. Montclair, NJ 07042 201-744-3132	<b>ADVERTISE YOUR PRODUCT OR SERVICE FREE ON THE INFORMATION SUPER HIGHWAY</b> * Reach 40,000,000 internet users worldwide * Show your products in full color Graphics * Immediate responses & tracking Call Toll Free 1-800-444-5478 FAX 908-968-3512	
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**Reach the African -American community with the City News Service Directory. Call 908-754-3400**

# American express signs Woods as spokesperson

NEW YORK (AP) — Tiger Woods got his first American Express card when he signed a multi-year, multimillion-dollar deal to be a spokesman for the financial services company around the world.

That is the kind of thing that has been happening to the 21-year-old golf phenom who earlier this year became the youngest player to win the sport's prestigious Masters tournament and won it by a record margin.

The announcement came only a day after Woods won the Byron Nelson Classic, the first tournament he had entered since winning the Masters.

Terms of the latest deal were not disclosed, but the trade magazine *Brandweek* said it was for about \$30 million for five years.

Woods' deal with Nike is estimated to be worth \$40 million and the Titleist deal is said to be \$20 million, each spread over five years. There is a source close to Woods' deal with the American Express deal is closer in value to the Titleist pact.

Unlike Nike and Titleist, American Express won't get the right to put his name on Woods' clothing or his golf bag.

But Kenneth I. Chennault, president and chief operating officer at American Express, said Woods can help broaden the company's base of customers.

"Tiger Woods is much more than an outstanding athlete," Chennault said. He said Woods' achievements reflect discipline, hard work and preparation that are also pillars of American Express business.

Woods will appear in behalf of a broad range of American Express products. His first television commercial is expected to air in late summer and will promote the company's financial advisory services. Chennault said Woods would probably appear later in commercials for its payment cards.

He said his management company had developed a plan for how he will be marketed and the American Express proposal "fit right into it."

Woods said he also was touched that American Express agreed to do a \$1 million donation to the Tiger Foundation which in introducing inner city children to the game of golf.

# Gov. called Last plantation

continued from page one

said in the Federal workforce," he said.

Many of those who testified were directly hurt by the actions of their agencies. "As a proud Vietnam era veteran, I am scarred by the fact that we were willing to put our lives on the line to defend a government that cares so little for us," said Tommy Swanson, an employee of the General Services Administration (GSA). "I am forced to work in an environment of harassment despite my qualifications."

Swanson initiated a discrimination suit against the GSA which he won, but lost on appeal. "All I want is the same shot at America's dreams that I fought for in conflict," Swanson said.

Ethel McCain, an employee of the Defense Accounting and Finance Services Agency entitled her testimony, "From the Bottom of the Jelly Bean Jar" referring to the derogatory statements made by Texaco executives concerning black employees. "I too, have been one of those jelly beans who can't seem to make it up through the jar," McCain said.

My agency "reeks with intimidation. Management knows that if we choose to fight for our rights, we may become tired, retired, or expired" by the time a settlement occurs, McCain said. Jennifer Murphy, a program analyst at the Army Research Laboratory, said that "management perpetrators of discrimination should be identified and taken out of the chain of command." She said that her agency "systematically discriminates in terms of employment."

Others who testified included John Boyd, president of The National Black Farmers Association; and Lawrence Lucas, executive director of the USDA Coalition of Minority Employees. They characterized the Department of Agriculture as the "last true plantation" where racism and discrimination has been institutionalized for decades. These practices have led "to the virtual extinction of African American farmers" and limited opportunities for black employees.

# Police officer held blameless in video taped kicking

By Jeff Donn  
Associated Press writer

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—A white police officer caught on videotape kicking a black suspect held to the ground by other officers has been cleared of assault.

A judge's ruling Wednesday appeared to take some local leaders by surprise. It immediately stirred worry about racial unrest in this city, where black leaders sometimes accuse the police department and other institutions of racism.

"We have a real problem with our judicial system," said Darnell Williams, head of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. "I'm not convinced that this decision was the best decision for easing racial tensions."

However, the eight-year veteran

officer, Jeffrey Asher, saluted the ruling as a victory for police everywhere.

"I'm very happy for all the other police officers who have to deal with what I had to deal with that day...and just try to do their jobs and make sure they get home to their loved ones," he said.

In his ruling in a Springfield court room, Judge John McCann said the officer used reasonable force to subdue the suspect. Prosecutors said one kick appeared to go to the suspect's head, but the judge disagreed. He said it seemed to strike the chest or shoulder, as contended by Asher's lawyer.

The case turned into a cause celebre in the minority community when television station showed the videotape. A civilian witness made during a March 20 scuffle between suspect Roy Parker, his wife, and police on a city street. Authorities say

they stopped because Parker was wanted in connection with an earlier charge.

Civilian witnesses said Parker did nothing to justify the kicking. But another policeman testified Parker traded punches with Asher before the taping began. Two kicks by Asher were captured on videotape, at one point with other officers pressing him to the ground.

Parker and his wife, Janet Dancy Parker, were both charged with assault. Asher was charged in Springfield District Court with assault with a dangerous weapon...his shoe.

The purpose of the hearing was to let the judge decide if there was reason to let stand the charge of assault with a dangerous weapon, reduce it to simple assault, or clear the officer of any charge.

However, Hampden County's district attorney, William Bennett, said his office could still seek a charge

against the policeman through a secret grand jury. He said he would review the judge's ruling and make a decision in about a week.

He said his office initially asked for the public court hearing instead of a secret grand jury...largely to demonstrate that it was vigorously pursuing the case.

"The case obviously was of great public interest," he said. McCann was called in from the Westboro District Court, on the other side of the state.

Richard Rubin, a lawyer for the suspect who was kicked, said he believes an independent prosecutor is needed in the case. Some black community leaders echoed that call Wednesday.

Asher has been suspended from his job without pay.

Gerald Phillips, head of the city's Police Commission, said he will hold a hearing on the officer's case when

all prosecution ends. He said the commission, which handles police discipline, is free to extend the suspension or even fire Asher, if it chooses, regardless of what the courts do.

"It's just a very difficult situation that has definitely split the community," he said.

The existence of the videotape recalls the 1991 taped beating by Los Angeles police of black motorist Rodney King. The acquittal of four police officers at an initial trial touched off a round of violence in Los Angeles, the worst riots in modern U.S. history.

In Springfield, the mostly white police department has been at the center of a series of incidents that angered the black community in recent years. They included the shooting of an unarmed black driver at a traffic stop and a police officer's crank call to a black minister to make fun of church burnings in the South.

# Gangstar rap controversy WAA oppose affirmative action

continued from page one

felt they were implicitly personal. "The label behind some of music's most controversial rappers, including Snoop Doggy Dogg and the late Tupac Shakur. Time Warner said its 50 percent stake in Interscope in September 1995 amid a firestorm of criticism.

Universal Studios Inc., the former MCA, has since bought that stake from Interscope.

Mrs. Tucker, chairwoman of the National Political Congress of Black Women, said after the meeting that she is taking on all music companies that produce offensive gangsta rap.

She is picking up the intensity of a campaign against Time Warner, MCA parent Seagram and others, pushing government pension funds to stop investing in companies that promote offensive music. She says she's also looking at organizing community demonstrations.

"Yes, she had a point," said Mr. Rosen, of the music industry group.

"She had a point that this artist is clearly overexposed in her music. But the artist Kim can speak for herself and her music does speak for itself." In addition to Lil' Kim, Mrs. Tucker also named three other Time Warner groups whose lyrics she finds offensive. They are: O' Jive Bats, Rusty Jordan and M.A.F.I.A. and Bays Rhythms.

Mr. Rosen noted the records Mrs. Tucker complained about "had a bold and visible parental advisory." Warner Music pointed out that of the 2,500 albums it put out worldwide last year, only about 1 percent required parental guidance stickers.

# Democratic gubernatorial

continued from page 1

running in regard to Christie Whitman's school funding law, community and business representatives have strong opinions about how candidates should deal with the issue of education. Larry Leverett, Superintendent of Schools in Plainfield, said that there now has to be a commitment to implementing the Supreme Court decision on education. "That message is to Governor Whitman and to all runners for the Democratic nod," he said.

"New Jersey has to do right by urban children," says Walter Fields, President of Fields Communications, a public affairs and government relations firm in Jersey City. "Public education is tied to economic solvency. Education equals future economic opportunities for our children."

Frederica Bey, Chairwoman of Women in Support of the Million Man March, Inc. in Newark, says that her organization, which plans to host a "Governor's night" gathering, has several key issues to discuss with Whitman regarding education. "That's a top priority for us," she said. "We were invited to ride with her on her five-county bus tour last month. We were unable to make it but hope to meet with her in the near future." In addition, the organization hopes to discuss with her the issue of education "redlining" in inner cities, day care for those just getting off welfare, and the disproportionate number of Black males (in relation to whites) in jail.

Democrat Michael Murphy says he will take a unique approach to boosting education funding. His television ad says he'll raise cigarette taxes by 25 cents to accomplish that goal. Unfraid to try something different, he's the only candidate who has said he will raise taxes. When

addressing what Whitman's state has done for, Murphy says that the state's share of contributions to public education has fallen from 42% to 38% under Whitman's tutelage - well below the national average.

Andrews answer to boosting funding for education (and to put more police officers on the beat and improve environmental issues) would be to tap into the natural annual growth in state revenues instead of raises rates or income taxes.

The development of business in minority communities is another key issue of concern. "I haven't seen any interest or plans dealing with business opportunities for minorities," says Al Bundy, President of Bundy Productions and Director of Project 2000. "Democratic state-wide should realize they need the support of the African-American vote. They seem very insensitive about obtaining it."

"The thing I'm most concerned about is that minority business owners don't get a comparable amount of contracts to their counterparts," says Gregory Williams of G.W. Enterprises. "I think if minority businesses need to meet with the state and come up with something of substance that will satisfy both sides."

The concerns of the community seem best summed up by Ella Teal of the Union County Urban League. No matter which candidate ends up getting into office, they really do need to be concerned with all people in the state," she said. "They need to deal with issues around Affirmative Action [not quotas], urban education, creation of jobs in inner cities. People can't get to where the jobs are. I feel that whoever is elected Governor needs to deal with each town or city on an individual basis."

TRENTON—In the State House in Trenton Thursday, May 22, the Women for Affirmative Action (WAA) convened a press conference, opposing two Assembly bills that would end Affirmative Action programs in the State, that specifically helps women and minorities.

Carolyn Koehn, president of WAA, slammed bill A-253, introduced by Assemblymen Michael Carroll (D-25) and Kevin O'Toole (D-21), saying that it would bring California's "Proposition 209" to the East Coast. Koehn is calling on the Governor and candidates for Governor, and State legislators to kill the bill along with its counterpart, A-2748, adding that the bills represent a "stealth attack" on years of bi-partisan support for affirmative action.

Women for Affirmative Action is a political action group of women and minority business owners in New Jersey and New York, formed in 1995, to maintain economic opportunities for women and minorities.

"There are thousands of businesses and we represent 36% of minority women-owned business and 20% of the revenues in the state," said Koehn. "And our ability to

survive depends on government incentives," she added.

Jayne Warner, New Jersey chair of WAA, said their energy and competitiveness lowers the cost of many jobs and that all taxpayers of the state benefit from affirmative action programs. "History has shown when these programs—contracting opportunities, business loans, tuition assistance—have been interrupted, the revenues of women and minority-owned businesses plummet," said Warner.

Minority enrollment in colleges has been declining and is predicted to get worse as special assistance is cut back said Koehn. In 1995, according to Koehn, the Glass Ceiling Commission, a bi-partisan panel appointed by Congress in 1991, issued its finding that "artificial, invisible barriers" continue to exist for minority and women in the workplace.

Supporting the measure to stop the bills were State Assemblywoman, Hon. Nia Gill, Assemblyman, Joe Charles (D-31), Professor Arthur Kinoy of the NJ Public Interest Research Group, and other social and civic leaders, who attended the press conference.

"The Carroll bill is a wake up

call," said Assemblyman Charles. Calling on all the participants at the conference to remain vigilant against the bill.

"My words are given in their fight. We are here at an incredible and severe moment, not only for NJ, but for the entire country," said Prof. Kinoy.

"In 1996, of the \$400 billion in federal, state and local government contracts, less than 2% went to women-owned businesses, even though we account for about 25% of all business in the country," added Koehn.

With no incentives in place for minority and women-owned business, they would rapidly be shut out by large firms, that are merging into fewer and bigger companies, driving to satisfy investors, said Warner. Adding that Affirmative Action only require that women and minority-owned business be given the opportunity to compete.

"By the year 2020, minorities will increase from 30 to 52% of the state's residents. Everyone gains from everybody fully developing their capabilities," said Koehn.

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